

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

FROM : MR. C. E. HENNRICH

SUBJECT: DREW PEARSON (Column of December 15, 1951);
 JACK NORTHEMAN ANDERSON, aka Jack Anderson;
 ROBERT S. ALLEN (Column of December 13, 1951);
 ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: December 31, 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 3-28-88 BY SP8UJ/ct

Tolson ✓
 Ladd ✓
 Nichols ✓
 Boardman ✓
 Belmont ✓
 Mohr ✓
 Parsons ✓
 Rosen ✓
 Tamm ✓
 Trotter ✓
 Tele. Room
 Nease
 Gandy

ad

see in file

Admiral Dennison called from the White House on the afternoon of December 31. He said he had reviewed the Bureau's report of the investigation in this matter. He asked if the Bureau had formed any conclusions as a result of the investigation. I informed him that the Bureau does not draw conclusions from the facts developed in its investigations, but that we report the facts as we find them. He then asked for the Bureau's opinion as to whether further investigation in this matter should be conducted. I pointed out to Admiral Dennison that after developing the investigation to the point where it now is, we had consulted with Secretary Lovett, who had suggested that no further investigation be conducted until he had had an opportunity to go over the report of facts developed. I told Admiral Dennison that I thought the decision as to what further investigation was to be conducted was one of policy to be decided by the White House. Dennison agreed with this. He said he was well pleased with the investigation in so far as it went; that he was disappointed there was no clearcut finding of who was responsible for the leak. He said it was his personal opinion that no further investigation should be conducted. He said he thought he would recommend to the President that the President write a letter to each of the persons who were in attendance at the December 10, 1951, conference, calling their attention to the apparent leak and stating that while he does not question the individual integrity of any of the members present, nevertheless he feels that somewhere along the line, through the injudicious handling of the information as to what went on at the conference, a leak resulted, and that he (the President) expects that each will take the necessary action to insure that such leaks do not occur in the future.

Admiral Dennison indicated he would talk with Secretary Lovett on the afternoon of December 31 and would confer with the President on January 1. He stated he expected that the results of his conference with the President would be reported to the Bureau by Secretary Lovett.

RECORDED - 131

165-60573-43

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During my conversation with Admiral Dennison,
he commended the Bureau on the accuracy of its reporting,
particularly pointing out that the reporting of the
interview with him was most accurate and succinct.

ACTION:

For your information.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. C. E. Hennrich

DATE: December 24, 1951

FROM : [Redacted]

SUBJECT: ALLEGED LEAK FROM WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
DECEMBER 10, 1951
TO JACK ANDERSON, LEG-MAN FOR DREW PEARSON
ESPIONAGE-X

Tolson	_____
Ladd	_____
Clegg	_____
Glavin	_____
Nichols	_____
Rosen	_____
Tracy	_____
Harbo	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Nease	_____
Gandy	_____

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-28-88 BY SP8/ty/jab

PURPOSE:

To advise you that the Bureau files fail to reflect a common tie-in between Pearson, Allen and Anderson with those individuals who attended the White House conference on December 10, 1951.

BACKGROUND:

For the purpose of ascertaining whether or not our files reflect a close relationship, a common incident, or a tie-up between Drew Pearson, Jack Anderson and Robert Sharon Allen with those individuals who attended the White House conference December 10, 1951, namely; Robert Abercrombie Lovett, General Omar Nelson Bradley, General Joseph Lawton Collins, General Hoyt Stanford Vandenberg, William Morrow Rechtler, General Charles Pierre Cabell, Secretary Frank C. Pace, Secretary Thomas Knight Finletter, Acting Secretary Francis P. Whitehair, Acting Secretary James Edwin Webb, [Redacted] Admiral Sidney William Souers, Mr. James Felden Bay, National Security Council, General Harry Hawkins Vaughan, Admiral Robert Lee Dennison, General Robert B. Landry, [Redacted]

The following check was made.

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The index cards from Records Section were called on the above-named individuals together with all build-ups and break-downs. The cards pertaining to each individual were arranged numerically and each set of cards were compared to the cards pertaining to Drew Pearson, Jack Anderson and Robert Sharon Allen, whose cards were also set up numerically. As a result of the above comparison a number of references were obtained whereby it was noted that the name of the individual attending the conference was also listed in the same piece of correspondence or report with that of the name of Drew Pearson or Allen or Anderson. In some references it was noted that the individuals names would appear in correspondence where both the Pearson and Anderson names appear.

AJM:slw

RECORDED - 97

INDEXED - 97

DEC 29 1951

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EX - 8

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97

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Upon the completion of comparing the index cards all references were pulled and reviewed and they failed to reflect a common incident or tie-up between the individuals attending the White House conference of December 10, 1951 and Pearson, Anderson and Allen.

However, it is of interest to note that in two instances Drew Pearson released information of a confidential nature which information was in the possession of Mr. H. Freeman Matthews who it will be noted attended the White House conference of December 10, 1951.

One of the above instances was in reference to a leak of information in the State Department in April of 1946.

In April of 1946, U. S. Ambassador Bedell Smith had a two hour interview with Premier Stalin of Russia. Ambassador Smith furnished to the State Department on April 5, 1946, in code, a message reflecting his talk with Premier Stalin. Drew Pearson on Sunday evening, April 7, 1946 broadcasted the substance of this message. Investigation by the Bureau reflected that three copies of the code message was made up one of which was delivered to Mr. H. Freeman Matthews, Chief of the Division of European Affairs of the State Department, on April 6, 1946 which was prior to the Pearson broadcast of Sunday, April 7, 1946. Accordingly there is no indication that Matthews furnished the information to Pearson and the investigation failed to fix responsibility for the leak of the information to Pearson. (62-58301-210,211,214.)

The other instance of interest was information released by Drew Pearson in his column dated June 12, 1945. The information pertained to Mr. Harry Hopkins talks with Premier Stalin of Russia, in June of 1945. Investigation by the Bureau reflected that Harry Hopkins sent telegrams from Moscow to President Truman reflecting the results of his talks with Premier Stalin. Copies of these telegrams were distributed to various individuals among them being Mr. Grew, who is Acting Secretary of State and to H. Freeman Matthews, who was Director of the European Division of the State Department at the time. There is no indication that Matthews furnished Drew Pearson with the confidential information and the investigation failed to definitely fix responsibility for the leak of the information to Drew Pearson. (62-78172-42,32,52)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that this memo be made part of captioned case.

ACTION:

That you authorize this memorandum be filed in the captioned case.

Received

Please furnish me search slips, build-ups and break-downs on the following individuals: Matter must be handled expeditiously.

- 1. Drew Pearson — *AK*
- 2. Robert Sharon Allen — *AK*
- 3. Jack Anderson — *AK*
- 16 4. Robert Abercrombie Lovett *F*
- 15 5. General Omar Nelson Bradley *F*
- 14 6. General Joseph Lawton Collins *F*
- 3 7. General Hoyt Stanford Vandenberg *F*
- 8 8. William Morrow Fechtler — *F*
- 5 9. General Charles Pearre Cabell — *F*
- 4 10. Secretary Frank C. Pace — *F*
- 9 11. Secretary Thomas Knight Finletter *F*.
- 2 12. Acting Secretary Francis P. Whitehair *F*
- 1 13. Acting Secretary James Edwin Webb — *F*
- 7 14. Mr. H. Freeman Matthews — *F*
- 11 15. Admiral Sidney William Souers *F*
- 12 16. Mr. James Felden Lay, National Security Council *F*
- 13 17. General Harry Hawkins Vaughan *F*
- 10 18. Admiral Robert Lee Dennison *F*
- 6 19. General Robert B. Landry — *F*
- 17 20. S. Everett Gleason *F*
- 18 21. Dan A. Kimball *F*

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-28-88 BY SP812/pt

Mr. Edward H. Foley, Jr. }
General Willis Matthews }
Colonel [redacted]

did not attend
conference

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65-60573-44

ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: January 3, 1952 ✓

FROM : D. M. Ladd *DL*

SUBJECT: Drew Pearson (Column of 12/15/51),
Jack Northman Anderson, aka Jack Anderson;
Robert S. Allen (Column of 12/13/51).
ESPIONAGE - X

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Harbo
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Tele. Room
- Nease
- Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-28-88 BY: *[Signature]*

PURPOSE:

This is to advise that Admiral Souers was briefed on January 3, 1952, regarding the contents of the report of SAC R. B. Hood, dated December 22, 1951, and particularly regarding the degree of association between Director of Public Information, Defense Department, Mr. Clayton Fritchey and of Under Secretary Francis P. Whitehair, Navy, with Drew Pearson.

DETAILS:

In accordance with your instructions, Mr. Hennrich talked with Admiral Souers of the White House on January 3 regarding the report of SAC R. B. Hood, dated December 22, 1951, which reflects the investigation of the alleged leak from the White House conference of December 10, 1951. He was briefed as to the investigation and advised of the information developed relative to the degree of association between Director of Public Information Clayton Fritchey of the Defense Department and Drew Pearson. He was also advised of the contacts between Under Secretary Francis P. Whitehair of the Navy and Drew Pearson.

Admiral Souers advised that he had just about completed reviewing the Bureau's report. He indicated that he felt no further inquiries should be made in this matter and suggested that had he been handling the matter no investigation would have been requested in the first place. He said that he thought that Admiral Dennison had probably "needled" the President in connection with the request for an investigation inferring that Admiral Dennison was not aware of the problems involved in attempting to pin down responsibility for such a leak of information. Admiral Souers commented that he felt the investigation would have some good effects for a short period of time in that the various agencies involved would be more security conscious.

CEH:evd

c.c.

RECORDED-11

INDEXED-11

EX. - 8

JAN 7 1952

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[Handwritten signatures and initials]

As you know, as far as the Bureau is concerned, all pending investigation has been completed. Secretary Lovett, who originally requested the investigation, has advised that in event further inquiries are desired he will so advise.

ACTION:

For your information. You will be advised of any additional developments.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Laughlin
- Mr. Mohr
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 06-25-2007 BY 60324 auc/baw/rs/ljm

January 5, 1952

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Dear Mr. Hoover:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your kind letter of December 26, 1951, with which you enclosed a copy of the report of Special Agent in Charge R. B. Hood, covering the investigation of the reported leak of information from the White House conference which was held on December 10, 1951.

I have examined the details of this report with considerable interest, and I am sincerely appreciative of your thoughtfulness in making it available to me.

Drawn Operation

Sincerely yours,



SIDNEY W. SOUERS

RECORDED - 63

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Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

~~EX BUREAU PROCEED~~ *[Handwritten signature]*

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SAC, Washington Field

January 4, 1952

Director, FBI

Drew Pearson (Column of 12/15/51)
Jack Northman Anderson, aka Jack Anderson
Robert S. Allen (Column of 12/13/51)
ESPIONAGE - X

Re report SAC R. B. Hood dated December 22, 1951.

You are advised that no further investigation is desired in connection with this matter and you are authorized to close your file.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-28-88 BY *[signature]*

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65-157-48
JAN 9 1952
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CEH:ev

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Mohr _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

MAILED 17
JAN 7 1952
COMM - FBI

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F. B. I.
JAN 10 4 46 PM '52

JAN 11 1952

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: December 27, 1951

FROM : MR. D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: DREW PEARSON (Column of December 15, 1951);
JACK NORTHMAN ANDERSON, aka Jack Anderson;
ROBERT S. ALLEN (Column of December 13, 1951);
ESPIONAGE - X

Tolson	_____
Ladd	_____
Clegg	_____
Glavin	_____
Nichols	_____
Rosen	_____
Tracy	_____
Harbo	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Nease	_____
Gandy	_____

PURPOSE:

To submit a summary of the investigation in this matter.

To advise:

1. Our investigation is completed.
2. A report has been submitted to Secretary of Defense Lovett and to Admiral Souers.
3. Admiral Dennison has been advised that report submitted to Lovett.
4. Admiral Souers is out of Washington. Will be briefed on his return January 4, 1952.

BASIS OF INVESTIGATION:

On December 13, 1951, Mr. Robert A. Lovett, Secretary of Defense, advised that the President had instructed that he request the FBI to initiate an investigation of a reported "leak" of information regarding Top Secret matters discussed at a House conference, December 10, 1951. Lovett stated Jack Anderson (leg-man for Pearson) had, on December 11, 1951, informed Under Secretary of the Navy Francis Whitehair that he had a column containing almost a verbatim account of what transpired at the December 10 conference. The President was notified and on his approval on December 12, 1951, General Omar Bradley sent for Anderson, reviewed the prepared column, and specifically requested deletion of two items for security reasons. Anderson had indicated entire column could not be "killed" and had already gone out on Bell Syndicate wires. He said he would recommend that two specified items be "killed."

RECORDED - 109
EX - 28

INDEXED - 109

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JAN 23 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 3-28-88 BY SP-8

Drew Pearson filed a column with the Bell Syndicate on December 11, 1951. It first appeared, to our knowledge, in the New York Daily Mirror on December 15, 1951. This column purported to report matters discussed at the December 10 conference and included quotes. Robert S. Allen filed a column with the Post-Hall News Syndicate on December 11, 1951. It first appeared, to our knowledge, in the New York Post on December 13, 1951. This column also purported to report matters discussed at the December 10 conference and included quotes. The Allen and Pearson columns were similar in most details. The Pearson column did include, when filed, the two items objected to by General Bradley. Pearson filed a correction to the column, eliminating these items, on December 12.

THE DECEMBER 10, 1951, CONFERENCE:

On Saturday, December 8, 1951, the President instructed Admiral Dennison to arrange for a conference to be held at the White House on December 10. The principal objective of the conference was to clear up certain matters concerning cease-fire negotiations in Korea. The specific item precipitating the President's action was an item providing for repair and rehabilitation of roads, airfields, etc. The President thought that we were being too lenient in our concessions in this regard. The President at that time indicated he would return to Washington for the conference rather than have a number of officials travel to Florida, where he was at that time. The President himself indicated those who would be present at the conference, and the arrangements were made by Admiral Dennison. The persons invited were not specifically advised as to the nature of the conference, although from pending matters under consideration they would have been aware in a general way of items which were to be discussed. There was, however, no designated or printed agenda. The conference convened at approximately 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m. All persons present participated in the discussions, with the exception of General Cabell, Vaughan and Landry, and Admiral Dennison. There was extensive discussion of the cease-fire negotiations in Korea, including objectives of the United Nations Forces and concessions which could be made in order to attain a cease-fire. There was also extensive discussion regarding the NATO planning and the European situation in general. The

conference was generally of a briefing nature, but, in addition, resulted in action concerning at least one instruction to General Ridgway as to how far he could go in his negotiations with Communist China on a "cease-fire," including concessions on repair and rehabilitation.

The following persons attended the December 10 conference and they have all been interviewed, except the President:

President Truman
Secretary of Defense Robert A. Lovett
General Omar Bradley, Chief of Staff
General J. Lawton Collins, Army
General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Air
Admiral William Fechteler, Navy
General Charles P. Cabell, Director of Joint Chiefs of Staff
Secretary France C. Pace, Army
Secretary Thomas K. Finletter, Air
Acting Secretary Francis P. Whitehair, Navy
Acting Secretary James E. Webb, State
Mr. H. Freeman Matthews, State
Admiral Sidney Souers, White House
James Lay, National Security Council
General Harry Vaughan, White House
Admiral Robert L. Dennison, White House
General Robert Landry, White House

Mr. Joseph Short, White House Press Secretary, and others who "on a need-to-know basis" were furnished information regarding certain phases of the conference, were also interviewed.

The interviews reflected that no one took notes during the conference except James Lay, who turned them over to the President, and that no one dictated a memorandum on the conference except Secretary Finletter, whose memorandum made brief reference to the conference and was directed at what was not discussed. All copies of that memorandum were accounted for. The interviews did not indicate who might be responsible for any "leak" of information from the conference.

THE ALLEN-PEARSON COLUMNS

The columns filed by Robert S. Allen and Drem Pearson are written in a style which would indicate that the writers had first-hand knowledge of what went on at the conference, describing the President's striding into the room, grinning, shaking hands all around, etc. The columns then purport to give with continuity high lights of discussions at the conference. Both of the columns are limited to discussions on the cease-fire negotiations.

It was the consensus of those persons interviewed and who had read the columns that the reporting was relatively accurate as to the points discussed in connection with the cease-fire negotiations, but relatively inaccurate as to the quotes attributed to the individuals present. In this connection, it was noted there was considerable variance among the persons interviewed as to exactly what was said by particular individuals. It was the consensus of those interviewed who had read the columns that they were prepared with at least some information as to points discussed at the conference, particularly regarding the cease-fire negotiations, and probably from a common source. General Vandenberg commented regarding the Allen column that the article did not reflect the real purpose of the meeting. General Vandenberg believes it could have been prepared by someone who had closely followed the Korean situation and public statements of positions proclaimed by the various Joint Chiefs of Staff members, without any access to an actual account of the meeting. At the time of his interview, the Pearson column was not available. As indicated above, Pearson's column is similar in context. All others interviewed who had read the columns indicated it would have been necessary to have access to at least bits of information regarding discussions at the conference in order to prepare the columns.

At least two items of particular significance regarding cease-fire discussions were not reported in the columns; namely, General Collins made a statement that Korea could be held until 1952 (election year) - the columns attributed him as saying that Korea could be held until "hell freezes over"; also, the general theme of the discussion on concessions was conditioned upon what has

been referred to as "the greater sanction," which contemplates the laying down of broad general terms of an armistice, with the firm and final determination and declaration that if the conditions are violated, the United Nations will take strong retaliatory action, including all out war against Communist China. The columns failed to comment on this.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Investigation developed that Clayton Fritchey, Director of Public Information, Department of Defense, was visiting the Pearson home on the evening of December 12 and had exhibited to him a copy of the Pearson column. He apparently is on close, friendly terms with Pearson and his wife. Fritchey admits he has known Pearson for ten years and visits him periodically about once a month. There is no indication that Fritchey had access to information on the December 10 conference prior to December 12.

Under Secretary Whitehair had previously been visited by Pearson on two occasions, and also by [redacted] a Pearson employee. Whitehair called Pearson on December 12, with the President's approval, for the purpose of "killing" the Pearson column. Whitehair indicated concern that he might be blamed for the "leak." Pearson told Whitehair he should not be apprehensive, for he had not told Pearson anything. Pearson commented that he was an old friend of General Bradley and that many other friends of his were at the conference. He named Finletter, Vandenberg, and Jimmy Webb in this connection.

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OBSERVATIONS:

It is to be noted that interviews were initiated prior to our obtaining the Pearson and Allen columns. Certain persons interviewed had not seen the columns and their comments were not obtained regarding the accuracy of the material contained therein. Inasmuch as the objective of the investigation was the identification of any person who may have been responsible for a "leak" of information, it was not deemed advisable to reinterview those persons specifically to obtain their comments as to the accuracy of the Allen and Pearson columns, particularly since those persons who will review the report were actually present at the conference and know what transpired. The only persons who attended the conference who had no knowledge of the contents of either column at the time of the interview were General Robert Landry and Secretary Thomas K. Finletter.

ACTION:

Secretary of Defense Robert A. Lovett was advised of the investigation conducted to date on December 21, 1951. He commented, without identifying the source, that the theory had been presented to him that an astute newspaperman could have written the columns without actually having access to the facts discussed at the conference. He commented that many items were inaccurate and that the columns made no reference to many items discussed. At this time, he specifically stated that Drew Pearson, Jack Anderson, and Robert S. Allen should not be interviewed at this time." He also stated that no further investigation was desired at this time on the basis of information developed.

A copy of the report of SAC R. B. Hood, dated at Washington, D. C., December 22, 1951, was forwarded to Secretary Lovett by letter of December 26, 1951. The letter confirms his request that no interviews should be had with Pearson, Anderson, and Allen, and specifically requests Secretary Lovett's advice as to whether further investigation is desired.

A copy of SAC Hood's report was forwarded to Admiral Souers under date of December 26. Souers is presently in Florida and will return on January 3, 1952. An appointment has been made by Mr. Hennrich to brief Admiral Souers on January 4.

Admiral Dennison has been advised that the report in this matter has been delivered to Secretary Lovett.

You will be advised of the briefing of Admiral Souers upon his return to Washington and of any further developments in this matter.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **WASHINGTON FIELD**

FILE NO. _____

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D.C.	DATE WHEN MADE 12/22/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/14-22/51	REPORT MADE BY R. B. HOOD, SAC
TITLE DREW PEARSON (Column of December 15, 1951) JACK NORTHMAN ANDERSON, aka Jack Anderson ROBERT S. ALLEN (Column of December 13, 1951)			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - X

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On 12/11/51 JACK ANDERSON, Reporter for DREW PEARSON, approached FRANCIS P. WHITEHAIR, Under Secretary of Navy, asked some innocuous questions concerning background of White House conference held preceding date; then confronted WHITEHAIR with statements attributed to participants at conference, requesting verification. WHITEHAIR states he rebuked ANDERSON and declined to comment on conference; reported matter to DAN KIMBALL, Secretary of Navy, and facts of proposed PEARSON column furnished President TRUMAN. On request, ANDERSON submitted pertinent portion of proposed news column for 12/15/51 release to General OMAR BRADLEY on 12/12/51. Specific objection to phraseology of two items in column made by General BRADLEY on security grounds, and PEARSON made requested changes. Column of ROBERT S. ALLEN appearing in 12/13/51 issue of New York Post reported substantially same information as PEARSON possessed relative to Presidential conference of 12/10. Columns referred to set forth. News dispatches referring to specific items discussed at conference set forth as of interest to instant investigation. At President's request, investigation conducted to determine whether leak may have emanated from any person in attendance at White House conference. All participants at conference interviewed as well as those identified as having knowledge of items discussed there. These interviews did not result in identification of any person responsible for leak of information.

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DATE 3-28-88 BY SP-8/AGL/ML
3-18-88 SP/AGL/ML # 21460

This copy returned see serial 45

COPIES TO ALL APPLICABLE AGENCIES
FOR INFORMATION

Memo on 1/22/52
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1 - copy to sec. 12/15/51
 2 - 25 - AGM
 12-25-51
 1 - copy to sec. 12/15/51
 12-25-51

1 copy sent to
 Adm. Services by cover let. - P -
 12/26/51 - CC 18

1 cc - ATTCor-ATM
 2-18-52 HH.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT DECLASSIFIED BY <i>SP-8/AGL/ML</i> 5 - Bureau 65-6060 Washington Field 10/16/77 # 21460 3-18-88		65-60573-50 RECORDED INDEXED - 60 JAN 18 1952 5-28

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

This investigation was initiated on a request of the President through Secretary of Defense ROBERT A. LOVETT. On December 13, 1951, Secretary LOVETT advised Assistant Director ALAN H. BELMONT and Inspector CARL E. HENNRICH that the President had requested him to inform the Bureau that an investigation should be made concerning information in the possession of JACK ANDERSON, leg man for DREW PEARSON, which information it was believed came from one of the government representatives attending a White House conference on December 10, 1951, presided over by President TRUMAN. The information concerned was of a "top secret" nature.

At that time Secretary LOVETT advised that the Defense Department had been considering four primary points in connection with the present cease-fire discussions in Korea and which points were presently matters of conflict between the United States and the Communist peace representatives. He stated that as a result of the feeling of the President that some of these matters were in need of further discussion, a conference was called by the President for 10:30 A.M., December 10, 1951, and the White House issued invitations to those whose attendance was desired.

Mr. LOVETT stated he had determined the following individuals were present at the conference:

- 1 President TRUMAN
- 2 Secretary of Defense ROBERT A. LOVETT ✓
- 3 General OMAR BRADLEY, Chief of Staff ✓
- 4 General J. LAWTON COLLINS, Army
- 5 General HOYT S. VANDENBERG, Air
- 6 Admiral WILLIAM FECHTELER, Navy
- 7 General CHARLES P. CABELL, Director of Joint Chiefs of Staff
- 8 Secretary FRANK C. FACE, Army
- 9 Secretary THOMAS K. FINLETTER, Air
- 10 Acting Secretary FRANCIS P. WHITEHAIR, Navy
- 11 Acting Secretary JAMES E. WEBB, State
- 12 Mr. H. FREEMAN-MATTHEWS, State
- 13 Admiral SIDNEY SOUERS, White House
- 14 JAMES LAY, National Security Council
- 15 General HARRY VAUGHAN, White House
- 16 Admiral ROBERT L. DENNISON, White House
- 17 General ROBERT LANDRY, White House

Mr. LOVETT, during the interview, furnished a summary of the various matters which were discussed at the conference. Mr. LOVETT advised that because of the widespread interest which had been general in connection with the conference, newspaper reporters were present at the White House in great number and at the conclusion of the conference were clamoring for information. He advised that to his knowledge, Mr. JOSEPH SHORT, press correspondent for the White House, advised the reporters that the conference had discussed world

affairs including Korea and made no further statement.

Mr. LOVETT informed that he had taken no notes during the conference and subsequent thereto, had prepared no written record of the matters covered at the conference. He further informed that there was no recording of the conference and that no written agenda had been prepared specifying the items to be discussed.

Secretary LOVETT advised that on the afternoon of December 12, 1951, JACK ANDERSON, leg man for DREW PEARSON, contacted Acting Secretary of the Navy WHITEHAIR and showed to Mr. WHITEHAIR or read to him a story which purported to be almost a verbatim account of the important matters set forth above which were discussed at the conference. He stated that Mr. WHITEHAIR was shocked and informed ANDERSON that it would be wrong to publish this material. Mr. LOVETT stated that Mr. WHITEHAIR brought this to the attention of the President. He stated that the President informed General BRADLEY who called either PEARSON or ANDERSON and asked that the material be brought over so that he might examine it. He stated that about 7:00 P.M. on the same day ANDERSON came to see General BRADLEY and brought the story with him. He stated that the story was read by General BRADLEY and his Aides, Colonel [redacted] and Colonel [redacted].

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He stated that General BRADLEY attempted to get ANDERSON to "kill" the story entirely but ANDERSON advised him that he had checked with PEARSON and that the story was already on the Bell Syndicate wires and would come out Saturday, December 15, 1951. He stated that ANDERSON informed General BRADLEY that it was impossible to "kill" the story. He further added that General BRADLEY and his Aides marked in red pencil two parts which they stated would be especially injurious to the security of this country and that ANDERSON informed General BRADLEY that he would recommend that these two parts be deleted.

Mr. LOVETT stated that the first part was a statement attributed to the President that if we did not get a cease-fire by December 27, we should arrange to extend the time. The second part related to concessions we might be prepared to make to the Communists. Mr. LOVETT advised that he did not know the full contents of ANDERSON's article. He stated that neither Mr. WHITEHAIR nor General BRADLEY had secured a copy of ANDERSON's article and that the only source from which the contents could be obtained in the government would be recollections of Mr. WHITEHAIR, General BRADLEY, and General BRADLEY's two aides. He stated that he did not know the exact excerpts of ANDERSON's article which shocked Mr. WHITEHAIR but rather was of the opinion it was the fact that ANDERSON had what appeared to be an accurate report of the conference.

Secretary LOVETT pointed out that ANDERSON's story appeared to have background which would indicate that it must have come from someone actually at the conference. He furnished as an example that the article started out by saying that the President, tanned and fit, walked briskly into the conference room and shook hands with everyone including his own White House Aides.

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INTERVIEW WITH FRANCIS P. WHITEHAIR

Mr. FRANCIS P. WHITEHAIR, Undersecretary of the Navy since August 6, 1951, was interviewed at his office on December 16, 1951, by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]

Mr. WHITEHAIR advised that he had attended the White House Conference on December 10 as substitute for Secretary DAN KIMBALL. At the conclusion of the conference, he departed alone, returning immediately to the Pentagon Building. He made no notes or memoranda but furnished a resume of the conference to Secretary KIMBALL the same afternoon and discussed the matter with no one else.

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On the following afternoon, December 11, Mr. WHITEHAIR returned to his office between 5 and 6 p.m., at which time he was informed by an aide, Marine Captain [redacted] that JACK ANDERSON was waiting to see him. ANDERSON had no previous appointment with Mr. WHITEHAIR, and they were not acquainted. Mr. WHITEHAIR advised that he talked with ANDERSON a short time in his office and found him to be an attractive, personable young man. He advised ANDERSON indicated he would not take much of Mr. WHITEHAIR's time, adding that he covers the Pentagon for DREW PEARSON and Mr. PEARSON wanted ANDERSON to become acquainted with Mr. WHITEHAIR. They exchanged a few pleasantries and then ANDERSON stated he understood Mr. WHITEHAIR was at the big meeting. WHITEHAIR replied, "You know there are a lot of big meetings." ANDERSON stated, "No, no, I mean the one at the White House." Mr. WHITEHAIR stated he remarked that unfortunately Secretary KIMBALL had been away, intimating that he had replaced Mr. KIMBALL. ANDERSON then asked who was present at the conference, and WHITEHAIR advised ANDERSON that the national interests precluded him from giving him this information. ANDERSON then inquired whether any jokes were told at the meeting. WHITEHAIR again advised ANDERSON that the best interests of the country made it impossible to discuss the conference. He thinks he mentioned this was merely the renewal of the bimonthly meeting of the President with the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Mr. WHITEHAIR advised that ANDERSON thereupon pulled from his pocket a glossy yellow or gold paper folded like a newspaper and, reading from this paper, inquired if it were not true that General VANDENBERG had stated that we should reach an armistice with the Communists and thereafter withdraw. Also, General VANDENBERG had contended that we should not bomb beyond the Yalu River. Mr. WHITEHAIR declined to answer this query. ANDERSON then inquired

WFO 65-6060

if ~~JIMMY~~ WEBB had not stated that we should reach an armistice and impose a threat to the Communists in the event the terms of this armistice were violated. Mr. WHITEHAIR refused to answer this question also. ANDERSON then inquired if Admiral FECHTELER did not oppose the above proposition of including a warning and threat to the Communists in the event of an armistice violation. Mr. WHITEHAIR stated he told ANDERSON that Admiral FECHTELER talks very little about anything. WHITEHAIR stated ANDERSON was persistent and inquired whether WHITEHAIR saw the President and he may have also asked regarding the President being tanned. WHITEHAIR advised he may have indicated that he saw the President, which was obvious, and could not recall whether he had commented on the suntan of the President. He advised ANDERSON then put the paper in his pocket and he lectured ANDERSON briefly, pointing out such material may be dangerous to the security of the United States and afford comfort to the enemy. He stressed ANDERSON should draw no inferences from anything stated by WHITEHAIR.

Mr. WHITEHAIR expressed the belief that ANDERSON's original intention was to merely obtain anecdotes or pleasantries for background or window dressing for his column and had not intended to reveal his material to WHITEHAIR, but this was a development from WHITEHAIR's refusal to cooperate from the outset.

Mr. WHITEHAIR advised on early Wednesday morning, December 12, he discussed the above incident with Secretary KIMBALL relating the entire story. He understands thereafter Secretary KIMBALL related the ANDERSON incident to Admiral FECHTELER, and later in the morning Admiral FECHTELER brought the matter to the attention of Admiral DENNISON of the White House who had visited the Pentagon about 11:30 a.m. on another matter. Mr. WHITEHAIR surmised that Admiral DENNISON had informed President TRUMAN as Admiral DENNISON contacted him later in the day and reported the President desired that WHITEHAIR report this matter to the attention of Secretary of Defense LOVETT and inform Mr. LOVETT that the FBI should be advised.

Mr. WHITEHAIR stated he felt the most immediate thing was to prevent publication of the story, if possible, and at his suggestion, Admiral DENNISON obtained authorization of the President for WHITEHAIR to contact DREW PEARSON. About 5 p.m., December 12, Mr. WHITEHAIR phoned PEARSON whom he had met on several prior occasions since his appointment as Undersecretary and appealed to PEARSON to withhold the column from publication. He stated he based his request on two grounds; first, that he was newly appointed and trying to perform his job and did not wish to become involved as a result of PEARSON's action in sending his representative to make friends with WHITEHAIR and then asked a series of questions about a confidential conference. Mr. WHITEHAIR's

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10-30-97 P2J 06-A 6-15-92 (A) remains (A) SP7C/GB #265,955

WFO 65-6060

second and most important argument was that the disclosure of the conference discussions might well impair the security of the country. He stated PEARSON was somewhat apologetic and said he wished WHITEHAIR had called him yesterday and then told WHITEHAIR that he need not worry, that he had not told ANDERSON anything, and insisted that the statement would not hurt the President or the country and, as a matter of fact, he thought the President would like it.

Mr. WHITEHAIR advised that his senior aide, Captain [redacted] [redacted] USN, had listened to the conversation with PEARSON and submitted the following memorandum:

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"12 December 1951

"At about 1735 Wednesday, 12 December, the Under Secretary directed me to get Mr. Drew Pearson on the phone for him and to listen in. There follows the substance of the conversation:

"Mr. Whitehair said that as Mr. Pearson knew, Mr. Anderson was in to see him yesterday afternoon. That Mr. Anderson and he had chatted for a while and that Mr. Anderson started asking about the President's conference Monday morning, as to who was there, and if there were any jokes told, etc. Mr. Whitehair gave him some innocuous answers, to innocuous questions, but when Mr. Anderson asked other questions and brought out a notepad to take notes, the Under Secretary told him not to do that, that he could not talk about the conference. Mr. Whitehair then said to Mr. Pearson that if he planned to publish anything about this conference he wished that he would reconsider and not do it, because if he had anything it might hurt our national interests, and since it was well known that Mr. Anderson had been in to see the Under Secretary he might be blamed for the leak.

"Mr. Pearson said that he had already released a brief outline of the conference saying that the President would like a truce, providing no serious concessions were necessary, etc., but that he didn't see that Mr. Whitehair should be apprehensive, as Anderson had told him that Whitehair hadn't told him anything, and that General Bradley and he (Pearson) were old friends and had talked this situation over many times, and that many other friends of his (Pearson's) were at the conference: Finletter, Vandenberg, and Jimmy Webb.

"Mr. Whitehair protested again, stating he was new here, trying to do a job and certainly didn't want to get involved in such a matter, and that it was now known that Anderson had been to Mr. Kimball's office and hadn't

see pg. 5
5

10-3097 PW 06A 6-15-92 *Remains (W) SP7 Ci/bb #265, 955*

WFO 65-6060

"gotten in to see Mr. Kimball, and had then come down to see him (Mr. Whitehair) — Mr. Whitehair not then knowing that Anderson had tried but had been unable to see Mr. Kimball first.

"Mr. Pearson then said that Anderson was trying to see Mr. Kimball on an entirely different matter, and had had instructions to get in to meet Mr. Whitehair, and further that he (Pearson) thought the article was a pretty good one, favorable to the President and to the military, and would do the President some good, and certainly not hurt our national interests.

"Mr. Whitehair said that he was glad to hear that, and thanked Mr. Pearson."

In connection with his acquaintance with DREW PEARSON, Mr. WHITEHAIR advised that when he was General Counsel for the Economic Stabilization Administration, he had been invited to the PEARSON home, along with [redacted] but had not accepted the invitation. Shortly after his appointment as Undersecretary of Navy, he was again invited to the PEARSON home for an informal buffet dinner on a Saturday afternoon and accepted. He recalled that he went in his car and drove Justice HUGO BLACK and his wife, who were also guests. Others present included DREW PEARSON, a sister of Mr. PEARSON, Attorney ABE FORTAS and his wife, [redacted] radio commentator, and [redacted] (of Mr. PEARSON). Mr. WHITEHAIR also recalled that PEARSON had paid him a casual visit one afternoon on a subsequent occasion inquiring how he liked his job and exchanging pleasantries. On one other occasion PEARSON had been in the Pentagon to contact the Secretary of Navy and dropped in for a brief visit with Mr. WHITEHAIR. Mr. WHITEHAIR advised he had never furnished PEARSON with any information.

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Mr. WHITEHAIR advised he did not know ROBERT S. ALLEN. He advised that he was not acquainted with JACK ANDERSON prior to the meeting described above and did not know any other individual employed by PEARSON with the exception of [redacted]. He explained he had met [redacted] previously on two occasions in his office. This occurred in connection with a controversy growing out of efforts of the Harvey Machine Company to negotiate a twenty-seven million dollar loan from the Government. Considerable opposition developed because of alleged inefficiency of the Harvey Machine Company in manufacturing defective shells for the Government during the war.

DREW PEARSON apparently had interested himself in opposing the loan efforts of the Harvey Company and sent [redacted] to see WHITEHAIR, at which time [redacted] displayed a confidential Navy document to WHITEHAIR. Sometime thereafter, [redacted] again visited WHITEHAIR and the latter returned the

document to [redacted] stating he was certain [redacted] had made photostatic copies. He said [redacted] was surprised, stating he thought WHITEHAIR would retain the document.

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The "New York Post" column of ROBERT S. ALLEN published December 13, 1951, was displayed to Mr. WHITEHAIR, who stated it was pretty accurate and undoubtedly based upon the knowledge of someone who had attended the conference. He stated the quotations attributed to the President and General COLLINS appeared reasonably accurate but observed that in connection with the column's statement that the Communists cannot drive us out of Korea, COLLINS had stated "For my money, the Communists cannot drive us out of Korea," rather than "until hell freezes over" as indicated in the ALLEN column. Mr. WHITEHAIR was positive General COLLINS had not said "until hell freezes over."

Mr. WHITEHAIR thought that the quotations and alleged statements of General BRADLEY were rather accurate with the exception that he did not recall that General BRADLEY had portrayed the Communists as playing off their efforts to demand concessions on airfields against the rotation of troops advocated by the U.N. He recalled that both matters were discussed in General BRADLEY's presentation of the various points at issue in the truce negotiations. With reference to the quotations of General VANDENBERG in the column, Mr. WHITEHAIR advised he could not recall that General VANDENBERG had argued particularly about airfields but possibly this was mentioned.

Mr. WHITEHAIR advised that his contribution to the conference touched briefly upon the fact that he was new in his job and his knowledge of the behavior and characteristics of the orientals, Koreans in particular, in the light of his many years' experience in the Far East as a Military Government Specialist and Prisoner of War Officer. He stated that based on his knowledge of oriental psychology, he offered the opinion to the conference that the Communists would prolong negotiations indefinitely and then say no, which supported the position of Admiral FECHTELER.

Concerning an alleged leak of information relative to the proceedings at the White House conference, Mr. WHITEHAIR stated he could offer no suggestions as to the identity of any person in attendance who may have been responsible for a leak, if a leak occurred.

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INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY OF NAVY DAN KIMBALL

Secretary of Navy DAN KIMBALL was interviewed at his office in the Pentagon on the afternoon of December 18, 1951, by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]

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Secretary KIMBALL advised that he was out of the city at the time of the White House Conference on the morning of December 10, 1951, and was represented at the conference by Under Secretary FRANCIS WHITEHAIR, who returned to the Pentagon before noon, at which time he furnished Mr. KIMBALL with a general summary of what had transpired at the conference. He recalled in particular that Mr. WHITEHAIR had informed him concerning the remarks made by Mr. WHITEHAIR and Admiral WILLIAM FECHTELER. Mr. KIMBALL advised he had made no notes, and that no memoranda had been prepared on the above discussion or the conference. He also stated he had no further discussions with anyone concerning the conference proceedings.

Secretary KIMBALL stated that on the following afternoon, December 11, 1951, he had returned to his office about 4:30 P.M., at which time his secretary advised that JACK ANDERSON had wanted to see him. Secretary KIMBALL told the girl that he did not wish to see ANDERSON at all. However, he learned that ANDERSON had left his office and had gone down to visit Mr. WHITEHAIR. Later that evening, or early the next morning, WHITEHAIR reported to Secretary KIMBALL that ANDERSON had questioned him concerning the White House Conference and thereafter read several items from notes indicating he had been briefed on a number of matters discussed at the conference. On the same morning, Mr. KIMBALL informed Admiral FECHTELER of the above developments and Admiral FECHTELER advised he would inform Admiral DENNISON of the White House. Mr. KIMBALL understood that Admiral DENNISON had advised President TRUMAN on the same date.

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INTERVIEW WITH ADMIRAL WILLIAM M. FECHTELER

Admiral WILLIAM M. FECHTELER, Chief of Naval Operations, was interviewed on December 15, 1951, by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] at the office of Admiral FECHTELER, Room 4E, 632, Pentagon.

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Admiral FECHTELER recalled he had attended the White House Conference held at 10:30 A.M., December 10, 1951. He advised that he did not take any notes during the conference and made no memoranda thereafter pertaining to the conference; he also advised he had not discussed the proceedings of the conference with anyone.

Admiral FECHTELER furnished the substance of his own contribution to the conference, which covered a single item. Admiral FECHTELER voiced his misgivings to an earlier State Department proposal that the sixteen member nations of the UN forces represented in Korea issue a threat to the Communists of dire consequences to be visited on them if a violation of the armistice agreement occurs. In this connection, Admiral FECHTELER urged that he did not believe in threats or in committing ourselves to a course of action which we might not be able or find desirable to effectuate at the time when some violation occurred, and he stressed he did not believe in issuing threats in any event.

Admiral FECHTELER furnished the background of instant matter as known to him, advising that he first learned of the PEARSON-ANDERSON leak on Wednesday morning, from Secretary DAN KIMBALL, as they were going to a conference together. Secretary KIMBALL related that on the previous day ANDERSON had an appointment with FRANCIS WHITEHAIR, during which ANDERSON questioned Mr. WHITEHAIR concerning the conference, and then read from a paper concerning the details of the conference, which alarmed WHITEHAIR, who reported the matter to Secretary KIMBALL. Admiral FECHTELER advised that after lunch he had occasion to talk with Admiral DENNISON, White House Attache, and DENNISON first learned of the leak from Admiral FECHTELER, and subsequently the matter was reported to the President.

Admiral FECHTELER pointed out he did not know DREW PEARSON, JACK ANDERSON, or any known PEARSON employee, and he had no specific suggestion as to how any leak may have occurred.

Admiral FECHTELER was made cognizant of the column by ROBERT S. ALLEN in the "New York Post" of December 13, 1951, which column

WFO 65-6060

purported to contain the substance of the White House Conference. Admiral FECHTELER said he could not verify the accuracy of the ALLEN column as to actual quotations, but in all, considered the ALLEN column to be substantially an accurate report of remarks which were included in the conference. He expressed the belief that the ALLEN column must have been prepared with assistance from someone who was present at the conference, and he concluded he could not point out any inaccuracies in the ALLEN column.

Admiral FECHTELER was asked concerning the item reportedly in the ANDERSON column to the effect that we would seek an extension beyond the deadline of December 27, 1951, in the event details were not completed prior to that date. Admiral FECHTELER stated he did not recall the President had indicated we would seek or permit extension beyond the December 27 deadline, although he thinks the date may have been mentioned during the conference. He did recall that the President in substance said we should not make any concessions which we will regret later.

In conclusion, Admiral FECHTELER advised that during the proceedings he did not observe anybody coming into or leaving the room, and recalled when the meeting concluded, approximately 11:40 A.M., everyone left the White House at about the same time.

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INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL OMAR BRADLEY

General OMAR BRADLEY, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was interviewed by Inspector CARL E. HENNRICH and Special Agent [REDACTED]

General BRADLEY advised he was informed by the President of the leak to DREW PEARSON, which was exposed when JACK ANDERSON approached FRANCIS WHITEHAIR to confirm material obviously originating at the conference. General BRADLEY stated that about 6:00 P.M., December 12, 1951, he had visited the White House at which time the President told him of the disclosure and expressed great concern that the truce negotiations would be jeopardized through an untimely news item. General BRADLEY volunteered to see if he could prevent publication of the information in PEARSON'S possession. General BRADLEY stated he ascertained from a source at the "Washington Post" that the PEARSON column was not made up for publication in the "Post" for December 13 and 14, which would be Thursday and Friday of the week of the conference. General BRADLEY advised that his press aide, Colonel [REDACTED] thereafter telephoned JACK ANDERSON, who came over to the office of General BRADLEY about 7:30 P.M., December 12, 1951.

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General BRADLEY related that when ANDERSON arrived at the office of General BRADLEY he displayed a typewritten copy of a column to General BRADLEY and his assistants, Colonel [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. General BRADLEY read aloud the portions of the column dealing with the White House conference of December 10. His recollection was that the column referred to the conference as an important White House conference and described the President's entering the conference room, making a joking reference to his suntan, and proceeding around the conference table shaking hands with each individual present. General BRADLEY recalled the column indicated that General BRADLEY had led off by outlining the military situation in Korea, in which General BRADLEY was fairly optimistic.

Subsequently, reference was made in the column to a statement attributed to Admiral WILLIAM FECHTELER to the effect that the Navy was ready to perform its mission any time, anywhere in the Korean war. General BRADLEY believed there may have been a reference to a statement allegedly made at the conference by General HOYT VANDENBERG, but stated later he believed this was mentioned by ANDERSON verbally.

General BRADLEY advised that he also recalled two items in particular which he pointed out to ANDERSON as very undesirable and which ANDERSON agreed

WFO 65-6060

to change to conform with suggestions of General BRADLEY. One of these items quoted the President as saying we ought to do everything we could to get a cease-fire, but should not make any concessions we will regret later. General BRADLEY suggested changing this to simply state that the President had declared we should not make any concessions which we will regret later. The second item indicated that it was agreed at the conference that if we did not succeed in obtaining a cease-fire by the December 27 deadline we would ask for a few days extension of time. General BRADLEY advised that at his suggestion this was changed to a statement that there would undoubtedly be some details which would have to be worked out subsequent to the December 27 deadline. In connection with these changes, General BRADLEY advised that he had informed the President that the changes had been made and told President TRUMAN that the article, as modified, was not particularly harmful. He said he did not recall the President referring to the date December 27, 1951, at the conference.

General BRADLEY stated he did not request ANDERSON to kill or withdraw the story, explaining it was his understanding from talking to WHITEHAIR that it had been dispatched and he preferred not to ask favors of DREW PEARSON. General BRADLEY expressed the opinion that the column was based, in part at least, on information obtained from someone present at the conference, and that it was fairly accurate and was not particularly harmful. He stated he did not authorize the publication but could not prevent its publication, and chose to suggest the changes, which he marked on the typewritten copy at the suggestion of Colonel WILLIS MATTHEWS.

General BRADLEY mentioned that ANDERSON had stated he had displayed the column to someone unnamed at the Pentagon who had stated that it was harmless and contained nothing which would violate security. General BRADLEY also had a recollection that ANDERSON had indicated that he had further information concerning the White House conference, but had refrained from including this in the watered down version for publication.

General BRADLEY, with reference to his participation in the conference, advised that at the beginning Secretary ROBERT LOVETT suggested that General BRADLEY inform the President of the military situation, which General BRADLEY did, advising him of the Communist buildup of men, planes, and equipment in the past couple of weeks, and also discussing the several points in the negotiation and mentioning that a few concessions could be made on both sides. He particularly expressed the view of the Joint Chiefs that repair and rehabilitation was equally advantageous to the UN and a ban would be unenforceable.

At this time the column of ROBERT S. ALLEN which appeared in the "New York Post" on December 13, 1951, was displayed to General BRADLEY, who

read it carefully and expressed the opinion that he did not believe he recognized it as identical with that of ANDERSON, and did not believe it to be as accurate. He stated some of the quotations are pretty close to those of ANDERSON's and that the same person could have given the material to both men, relating it a bit differently, or he thought perhaps ALLEN could have obtained the material from PEARSON or ANDERSON prior to the time that ANDERSON's material was watered down in column form.

General BRADLEY pointed out several differences. He stated that at the conference General VANDENBERG had not expressed as great concern as attributed to him in the ALLEN column. He stated that the references to General COLLINS were fairly accurate, and the quotation that General COLLINS stated we could "hold the present line until hell freezes over" was accurate. With reference to General COLLINS' inclination to make concessions on the airfield dispute, he stated COLLINS' view was that four or five airfields could be conceded to the Communists.

General BRADLEY advised that with reference to the statement in the ALLEN column attributed to him, that the Reds were trying to bargain rotation against airfields, this is not entirely accurate, but that reference to the rotation of troops was made and this was discussed as one of the serious points at issue in negotiations with the enemy.

General BRADLEY advised that the quote attributed to President TRUMAN, that he was very anxious to end the fighting but would not agree to concessions we may regret later, was accurate to the best of his recollection. He also believed some reference was made at the conference to building up the South Korean Army and how soon we could withdraw safely.

General BRADLEY was questioned concerning any possible suspicions he might have concerning anyone present at the conference, and he stated he felt that no member of the Military or Naval services present was responsible for the leak. He admitted he had in mind one civilian present at the conference whom he would not trust with confidential information of this character. He said he had absolutely no facts to support his suspicions, except that this person had been reported to have leaked information on a prior occasion. He confided that he had made his suspicions known to the President and had promised the President that he would not reveal the name of this person to any other individual. General BRADLEY did not furnish any information which would point to the individual under his suspicion.

General BRADLEY advised he did not make any notes during or after the conference; thereafter, did not make any record or memorandum of the proceedings. Furthermore, he stated he had not discussed the proceedings of the conference with anyone except as indicated above.

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INTERVIEW WITH COLONEL [REDACTED]

Colonel [REDACTED] press officer and aide to General OMAR BRADLEY, was interviewed in the office of his associate, Colonel [REDACTED] on the afternoon of December 11, 1951, by SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

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Colonel [REDACTED] advised that at about 6:30 p.m. on December 12, 1951, General BRADLEY had returned to his office from the White House and advised that the President was greatly concerned about an alleged leak to DREW PEARSON or his reporter, JACK ANDERSON, of matters discussed at the White House conference held on the morning of December 10, 1951. Colonel [REDACTED] stated he understood that ANDERSON had prepared a story containing direct quotations which were very accurate, indicating the information was authentic. He explained that he learned from General BRADLEY, that FRANCIS WHITEHAIR, acting Secretary of Navy at the conference, had been approached by ANDERSON under the pretext that he wanted to meet with Mr. WHITEHAIR, who is comparatively new as under Secretary of Navy, and thereafter endeavored to question Mr. WHITEHAIR about the conference proceedings. When Mr. WHITEHAIR declined to furnish anything, ANDERSON pulled a paper from his pocket and read descriptive material of the conference proceedings which was so accurate Mr. WHITEHAIR became alarmed, and reported the matter which ultimately reached the President. Colonel [REDACTED] related that the President felt that premature or inaccurate disclosures might jeopardize our entire truce negotiations with the Communists. So, General BRADLEY volunteered his assistance in view of past experience with PEARSON in a similar matter. He recalled that on one occasion in the past when PEARSON had prepared a column dealing with top secret atomic information, General BRADLEY had requested PEARSON not to use the material in the interests of national security and PEARSON had respected General BRADLEY's request in that matter. Colonel [REDACTED] related that in the light of that prior incident, General BRADLEY had volunteered to help on this occasion. Colonel [REDACTED] understood from General BRADLEY that Mr. WHITEHAIR had called DREW PEARSON, who indicated that the column already had been dispatched, but insisted that nothing contained therein constituted a danger to security or a source of embarrassment. Colonel [REDACTED] stated he phoned "RUSS" WIGGINS of the Washington Post, who advised him that nothing concerning the White House conference appeared in the PEARSON columns scheduled for publication December 13 and 14. Colonel [REDACTED] advised that before having PEARSON again contacted by his superior, General BRADLEY, he thought he would discuss the matter with JACK ANDERSON and called him after locating ANDERSON at the Senate Press Gallery.

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He stated ANDERSON assured him he did not wish to violate security and there was no security violation in the PEARSON column, but agreed to come over with the column and discuss it. At the same time, ANDERSON inquired how [] learned of the column's existence, and offered to submit the column for editing in exchange for being informed as to who told Colonel [] he had the information concerning the conference. To this Colonel [] agreed. A short time thereafter, around 7:00 p.m., JACK ANDERSON came over to General BRADLEY's office and there in the presence of ANDERSON, Colonel [] and himself [] General BRADLEY read aloud the portion of the column dealing with the White House conference. Colonel [] recalled there were two points in the article which were considered objectionable, although General BRADLEY did not indicate to ANDERSON that anything in the column was accurate or indicate in any way that he approved publication of the column. Colonel [] explained this type of editing is necessary in handling stories where reporters have secured confidential information in the nature of scoops, as they are unable to prevent publication and endeavor to protect national security by persuading the reporters to delete items which greatly endanger the national interest.

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The first of the objectionable items above, in substance, quoted the President as stating we would grant an extension of a few days if details of the peace negotiations were not worked out by the cease fire dead line of December 27, 1951. Colonel [] advised this objectionable item was rephrased and in substance was made to read that undoubtedly there will be some details that will have to be worked out after the December 27th dead line. The other objectionable item in substance had quoted the President as saying that we ought to do everything we can to get a cease fire, but we should make no concessions that we would regret later. Colonel [] advised this item was considered objectionable in that it would tend to make it look like we are too anxious to obtain an armistice. So, the item was changed in substance to show the President commenting we should make no concessions we would regret later. Colonel [] stated that apart from the above changes, it was agreed in ANDERSON's presence that the column was not particularly harmful and might in fact be helpful. Thereafter, ANDERSON departed with the understanding he would recommend to PEARSON that the suggested changes be inserted in the column.

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Just before leaving, ANDERSON reminded Colonel [] they had agreed that on the condition of ANDERSON submitting the column, Colonel [] would tell ANDERSON how it had been learned that the column had been prepared. In reply to ANDERSON, [] told him he learned it from the President.

He stated ANDERSON appeared to be genuinely startled at this, and then as they were walking down the hall, ANDERSON shook his head and said "it must have been WHITEHAIR who told him."

To the best of his recollections, Colonel [] furnished the material contained in the PEARSON column as read aloud to him by General BRADLEY in ANDERSON'S presence. He recalled the column had started out with a description of the President entering the conference room in good spirits, and after greeting everyone made some remark, in substance, inquiring as to how they all liked his suntan. In addition to the two items above, considered objectionable and changed in accordance with General BRADLEY'S suggestions, Colonel [] recalled the PEARSON column contained a sub-title along in the middle of the column, captioned "Silent Admiral" which described a statement at the conference attributed to Admiral FECHTELER. It was Colonel [] recollection that in substance the comments attributed to FECHTELER were to the effect that the Navy was ready to carry on its part in the Korean war if called on, any time, any place, and under any condition. Colonel [] said he could not recall additional items in the PEARSON column, but did remember that next to the last item was the previously described objectionable reference to the granting of extensions of time beyond the December 27 deadline. In connection with ANDERSON'S protestation that the column contained no violation of security, ANDERSON had told General BRADLEY and his two assistants that he had lots more information from the conference and he had purposely left it out because there might be some question of security. In this connection, he referred to statements attributed to General VANDENBERG dealing with the air war and how it would affect us and by General COLLINS concerning troop rotation, and what we should do about it.

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Colonel [] stated he is familiar with the DREW PEARSON style of reporting and his information techniques from considerable experience with ANDERSON and he feels that this information originated from an eye witness who attended the White House conference. He cautioned, however, that the entire story may not have been obtained from such a source of information and added that it may have been the work of two or more reporters working in conjunction, such as ANDERSON and [] another PEARSON reporter, or ROBERT ALLEN and []. He also called attention to the possibility that direct quotations could have been passed on by a secondary source in the person of an assistant to one of those attending the conference. In this connection, Colonel [] stated that a surprising degree of detail can be assimilated by a man trained in this respect to receive information from the top man and be able to retain it in order to make or implement decisions.

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Colonel [] stated that a leak of this nature was not the sort of thing that was handled by a telephone conversation between the source and the reporter. He said this sort of matter would almost necessarily indicate a person to person briefing with the informant giving the reporter a complete "fill-in" or "run-down" on the entire proceedings.

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At this time, Colonel [] called attention to a column by ROBERT S. ALLEN, which he stated appeared in the New York Mirror December 13, 1951, but actually appeared in the "Blue Final" of the New York Post on the evening of that date. Colonel [] stated that reading the ALLEN column tended to confuse a bit his recollections of the ANDERSON material, but believed the column was in general similar to the ANDERSON column. He observed that the ALLEN column appeared to include the material in ANDERSON's column and in addition contained quotations by General VANDENBERG and General COLLINS, recalling in this connection, that ANDERSON had stated he had such items in his possession, but did not choose to use them.

After reading the ROBERT S. ALLEN column last night (December 13, 1951) Colonel [] remarked he called Mr. CLAYTON FRITCHEY, Director of Public Information, Department of Defense. They discussed the ALLEN column and Colonel [] recollection of Mr. FRITCHEY's comment was FRITCHEY remarked that ALLEN had "scooped" PEARSON by two days. The following day, Colonel [] and Mr. FRITCHEY discussed the matter of the ALLEN and PEARSON columns and Mr. FRITCHEY told Colonel [] that he was at the DREW PEARSON residence at the time the discussion in General BRADLEY's office took place on the night of December 12. Mr. FRITCHEY told Colonel [] that he was playing bridge at the PEARSON home when ANDERSON came by the DREW PEARSON residence on his way to the Pentagon to take the column to General BRADLEY. Colonel [] stated FRITCHEY had related to him that PEARSON had showed the column to him (FRITCHEY). Colonel [] said FRITCHEY had made the observation he did not see anything harmful in the column as it had been displayed to him by PEARSON.

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At the conclusion of this interview, Colonel [] summed up his observations by saying in his opinion there are two ways that the information got out: either a leak by some member actually in attendance at the White House conference, or some member in attendance told it to his respective staff and the information leaked from that point. He continued that it was his belief that the leak actually came from a person who had attended the White House conference. Colonel [] added it was his own conclusion that the same source who furnished the data to JACK ANDERSON also had given the same information to ROBERT S. ALLEN.

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On December 18, Colonel [redacted] was reinterviewed for the purpose of displaying to him the DREW PEARSON column as published in the New York Daily Mirror, December 15, 1951. It was Colonel [redacted] observation that with only possibly minor editing, such as a comma here or there, he could see nothing significant in the PEARSON column as different from the original column which had been presented by ANDERSON and read by General BRADLEY. He stated he thought all the principal points were in the column. He did not believe the first paragraph in the column displayed is identical in form with the ANDERSON material, but he thought that the material that ANDERSON displayed to General BRADLEY did have an introduction containing much the same thought. He noted particularly the second sentence in the opening paragraph referring to an assurance from General BRADLEY that a cease fire could be worked out in Korea.

INTERVIEW WITH COLONEL [REDACTED]

Colonel [REDACTED] Aide to General OMAR BRADLEY, was interviewed in his office at the Pentagon on the afternoon of December 14, 1951, by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Colonel [REDACTED] confirmed the story of Colonel [REDACTED] of the return of General BRADLEY to the Pentagon about 6:30 p.m. on December 12, 1951, with the report from President TRUMAN of the news leak to JACK ANDERSON and the subsequent visit of ANDERSON to the office of General BRADLEY between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. the same evening. Colonel [REDACTED] also advised that upon arrival, ANDERSON had displayed a lengthy typewritten document on long sheets of yellow paper, resembling teletype paper, which he presumed to be a full column. He stated perhaps one third or more of the material was devoted to the White House Conference and that General BRADLEY read this portion out loud in the presence of ANDERSON, Colonel [REDACTED] and himself. He advised that ANDERSON furnished no copy to General BRADLEY and no notes were made.

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Colonel [REDACTED] stated that ANDERSON indicated that the column, as prepared, did not have any items dangerous to security and informed General BRADLEY that he would delete or recommend deletion of anything constituting a security violation. He advised that General BRADLEY did not approve anything in the column or indicate that anything was accurate or inaccurate. However, General BRADLEY objected to two items and designated these items on ANDERSON's copy at the suggestion of Colonel [REDACTED]. He stated ANDERSON agreed to change the two items to conform with the suggestions of General BRADLEY and Colonel [REDACTED]. He stated he was not completely clear as to the two items, but believed in one item, ANDERSON agreed to delete a statement indicating that we are anxious for an armistice and would go to considerable lengths to obtain it, and to leave in the column a statement by the President that we should not go and make any foolish concessions or mistakes which we would regret thereafter.

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Colonel [REDACTED] advised that prior to the arrival of ANDERSON at the office of General BRADLEY on the evening of December 12, 1951, General BRADLEY had called Secretary ROBERT LOVETT discussing the alleged leak and informing him of the concern of the President. General BRADLEY also called Under Secretary FRANCIS WHITEHAIR, who had originally reported the leak and discussed the leak and the President's concern with Mr. WHITEHAIR.

WFO 65-6060

With reference to his recollections of the ANDERSON article read by General BRADLEY, Colonel [] stated that it began by referring to the White House conference and indicating that the information hereafter came from an informed source or a source close to the White House. He stated it described President TRUMAN as entering the conference room, shaking hands with everybody, and making a remark about Florida and his suntan. He stated the article quoted the President and indicated that the President opposed granting the Communists the right to rebuild air fields, roads, etc. He believed some remark was made by the President to the effect that we should get along with the armistice negotiations.

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Colonel [] advised that he knew of the White House conference on December 10, in advance, but was not informed of the topics for discussion and had not discussed the conference with General BRADLEY or anyone else. He stated, so far as he knew, no notes or memoranda were made by General BRADLEY. Colonel [] was able to furnish no individuals as suspects.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. CLAYTON FRITCHEY

Mr. CLAYTON FRITCHEY, Director, Office of Public Information, Department of Defense, was interviewed at his office in the Pentagon on December 17, 1951, by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]
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Mr. FRITCHEY advised he possessed no information regarding the proceedings and discussions of the White House Conference held December 10, 1951, and did not know the identities of those in attendance other than from normal conjecture. Mr. FRITCHEY was advised it was understood he possessed some information regarding an alleged leak from the conference to DREW PEARSON or JACK ANDERSON, his reporter. Mr. FRITCHEY stated on the afternoon of Tuesday or Wednesday of last week, at about 3:00, 4:00 or 5:00, ANDERSON had visited him in his office. On this occasion, ANDERSON inquired as to what transpired at the White House Conference, and FRITCHEY said he knew nothing. ANDERSON replied that he had a "pretty good fill-in" on the conference, and FRITCHEY gathered from ANDERSON's manner that he considered the material authentic, but not particularly exciting, and that it had proved to be something of a let-down. ANDERSON gave FRITCHEY no details of the information in ANDERSON's possession. Mr. FRITCHEY remarked that he knew ANDERSON rather well, but that ANDERSON does not visit him very often, and added that the reporters, including ANDERSON, know who to see and who is vulnerable, indicating he was not in the latter category.

At this point, Mr. FRITCHEY stated he was able to place the date of ANDERSON's visit as Tuesday, December 11th, which was the day before he had visited DREW PEARSON's home for dinner and bridge. He mentioned DREW PEARSON does not play bridge personally, but his wife enjoys the game. FRITCHEY stated that in route to PEARSON's residence, he had gone by the home of his assistant, Lieutenant Colonel [redacted] and remarked that [redacted] did not have dinner. He explained, later in the interview, that Colonel [redacted] and his wife joined the group for bridge after dinner. Dinner guests included DREW PEARSON and wife, [redacted] and his wife, [redacted] of Kentucky, and Mr. FRITCHEY.

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While at dinner, or possibly just before dinner began, JACK ANDERSON arrived at the PEARSON home, and PEARSON invited FRITCHEY into

the hallway or reception room adjoining the living room, where he was shown an article pertaining to the White House Conference. He stated it was typewritten on several pages of yellow paper longer than the ordinary letter size, and he gathered it was part of the column. PEARSON told FRITCHEY the article contained several items to which General BRADLEY or his assistant, Colonel [redacted] or both, objected, and ANDERSON was going to show it to these officers. At PEARSON's invitation, FRITCHEY read the article, which impressed him as being rather innocuous and pretty tame. FRITCHEY stated, however, it struck him that despite the fact the column was not sensational, the fact that it indicated a leak had occurred in such an important conference was significant and important. He stated he did not suggest this to PEARSON, nor did he suggest that PEARSON withhold publication of the column. He advised PEARSON did not ask him to approve the article or to edit it in any way, and he did not do so. He stated he supposed PEARSON showed him the column to double check the story, as this is a normal technique. He remarked that it is well-known here that PEARSON has excellent sources, and this sort of thing occurs regularly, and he did not feel it would cause any furor.

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Mr. FRITCHEY advised that ANDERSON then departed, and an hour or two later returned, at which time FRITCHEY was playing bridge. He stated he did not see the column on this second visit of ANDERSON; however, PEARSON informed him that one or two changes were suggested by General BRADLEY, and PEARSON stated that the column would be changed as suggested. FRITCHEY gathered from this that the column would be dispatched, and added it was his conclusion that the column had appeared, although, perhaps, not in the "Washington Post" as editors often exercise the prerogative to delete columns or portions of columns, and in some instances, such as with the tabloids, to divide columns and publish them piecemeal in different editions.

Mr. FRITCHEY advised that shortly before noon on Saturday, December 15th, JACK ANDERSON came to his office on another unimportant, unrelated matter, at which time FRITCHEY twitted ANDERSON for being scooped by ROBERT S. ALLEN, whose column, containing information similar to that of ANDERSON, had appeared in the "New York Post" on December 13, 1951. FRITCHEY advised that ANDERSON expressed surprise, which appeared to be genuine. FRITCHEY stated he had learned of the ALLEN column from Colonel [redacted] and thought he had a copy in his desk box; however, he could not locate the copy, and ANDERSON departed, apparently in search of a "New York Post" containing the ALLEN column. FRITCHEY stated that, on this second visit of ANDERSON, he did not mention the subject of an

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investigation, nor did FRITCHEY know about the investigation at that time. FRITCHEY stated that he had first learned of any possible difficulty in connection with the column while at the home of PEARSON on December 12, 1951. He did not know who PEARSON or ANDERSON blamed for exposing ANDERSON, but gathered from Colonel [redacted] that FRANCIS WHITEHAIR had reported the matter. He stated he presumed PEARSON knew that ANDERSON had seen FRITCHEY on the previous day, and told FRITCHEY he had a good fill-in on the conference proceedings.

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Mr. FRITCHEY was asked for his recollections of the content of the original material, which he read at the PEARSON home on the evening of December 12. He stated that he read the article hurriedly, but recalled that it quoted General BRADLEY, JOE COLLINS and possibly General VANDENBERG, although he was not sure about this, and also contained a quotation from the President. He stated it appeared to him that it was pretty much a statement of positions taken in the past by these officials. He thought the President had been quoted as saying we should not make concessions which would hurt our positions, and that General COLLINS had declared he thought we could hold the present line or our present positions whether there was an armistice or not.

Mr. FRITCHEY examined the "New York Post" column of ROBERT ALLEN dated December 13, 1951, which was available at this time, and said that the material in this column pretty well paralleled that of the ANDERSON material described above, but could offer no suggestion in this connection. He stated he did not have any idea where PEARSON or ANDERSON had obtained the information on which the PEARSON article was based, nor did he have any idea whether PEARSON actually prepared it. He stated the same was true with reference to ALLEN, whom he knows, but has not seen in several months, the last occasion being when ALLEN visited the Pentagon Building to attend a regular monthly press conference of General GEORGE MARSHALL. In this connection, he mentioned that ALLEN has a leg-man, who covers the Pentagon in much the same manner as ANDERSON does for PEARSON, but he does not know the name of this reporter. Mr. FRITCHEY stated he knew no one who attended the conference, who was particularly close to PEARSON, nor anyone who had ever furnished any confidential information to PEARSON in the past. As indicated, he declared he did not know with certainty who attended the conference. He stated he did not recall any red hot tips coming out of the Pentagon since the last investigation had been made concerning PEARSON's leaks, and he thought that PEARSON may have been frightened somewhat at the time of that investigation. He suggested that the type of individual, who might furnish information to PEARSON would be one interested in politics and very ambitious, politically or otherwise.