

Selected excerpts  
from the  
FBI file on Harry Hay,  
founder of the modern gay  
rights movement and  
identified member of the  
Communist Party USA.

Released to Cliff Kincaid,  
President of  
America's Survival, Inc.

[www.usasurvival.org](http://www.usasurvival.org)

# The Brown Palace Hotel

Denver, Colorado 7/17/49.

Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-15-90 BY SP1A/B/PC  
315529

Gentlemen:—

There is a saying that blood is thicker than water. — However, the security of the United States is more important to me than anything else. —

Ever since I learned (in New York) in 1940 that one of my relatives is a member of the Communist Party — as his wife is also —

I have been wondering if it is my duty to the United States to report

RECORDED - 100

INDEXED - 100

100-21619-8

copy  
6/16/49  
call  
6/16/49  
7-16-49

meetings are held at their  
Ed

# The Brown Palace Hotel

Denver, Colorado  
11.

home every Friday night. I know  
that the Communist Party is a legal  
organization, but I feel that  
the activities of its members are  
against the best interests of the  
United States. —

For that reason I, very reluctantly,  
give you the name of my communist  
 Mr. Harry <sup>©</sup> Hay, 2328 Love Ave.,  
Los Angeles, 26, Calif.  
HARRY HAY

Sincerely yours

b7D

SECRET

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 09-08-2010

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/23/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>11/18-20/53; 1/28; 2/2-5, 6/ 15/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>LOUIS K. DE GEUS pcw</b>
TITLE <b>HARRY HAY, was. Mac'h Eann, Karen Hunter</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C.C. 1080</b> <i>f-600</i> <i>10-1-1954</i>

## SUMMARY REPORT

(U) *you NA*

Subject joined the Communist Party in Los Angeles, California in the spring of 1934, but subsequently dropped out. He re-joined the Communist Party in Los Angeles in 1938, and was a member thereof in early 1950. Subject has also been active in or in connection with such organizations or publications as the Daily People's World, New Theatre League, Hollywood Arts, Sciences, and Professions Council, EARL ROBBINSON Chorus, and the Independent Progressive Party. Subject's physical description set forth.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

- P -

Classified by *SP1 AG 507*  
Declassify on: *60039-18-90*  
*3/5/54*

All informants designated in this report by "T" symbols are of known reliability unless otherwise indicated.

## BACKGROUND

### BIRTH DATA

Records of the Interstate Aircraft and Engineering Corporation, 3443 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California

HARRY HAY was born April 7, 1912 at Worthing, Sussex, England.

AGENCY *DR 21 INS*  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. *3/9/54*  
HOW FORW. *bc*  
BY *Eann*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>JEM</i> <i>TED</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-211619) (REG) 1 - INS, Los Angeles (REG) 3 - Los Angeles (100-18762)		100-211619-13	RECORDED-97 INDEXED-97
<b>COPY IN FILE</b>		20 MAR 2 1954	

LA 100-18762

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

T-7

In April, 1938, subject resided at 940 South Windsor Boulevard, Los Angeles, California.

T-1

Subject has resided as follows:

October, 1940                      35-30 81st Street, Jackson Heights, New York

Sometime prior to May 1, 1942                      542 Sixth Avenue, New York City

May, 1942                              2238 Lake Shore Avenue, Los Angeles.

T-8

As of July, 1945, subject was residing at 2328 Cove Avenue, Los Angeles.

STATUS OF HEALTH

T-1

From May, 1938 to May, 1943, subject was undergoing treatment for a venereal disease. ✓

CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY (CP)

T-7 (U)

In February, 1943, informant made available a copy of a letter addressed by subject, as HARRY HAY, to the Chairman of the membership committee of the Los Angeles County Communist Party. (LACCP) The letter is quoted in part as follows: ✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LKD:nak  
LA 100-18762

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

T-20

In September, 1950, informant, a former member of the CP in the Los Angeles area, furnished a signed statement in which informant characterized subject as a member of the CP in approximately 1947 and as one who conducted a number of classes in Marxism with the objective of recruiting into the CP those people who were present at these classes. Subject was a very firm believer in the policies and objectives of the CP at that time.

T-21, of unknown reliability,  
former member of CP in Los Angeles  
area

In 1947, subject was conducting classes on Marxism, which classes were held in private homes and were attended by members of the 13th CD Club and 54th AD Club of the CP, Los Angeles.

T-22

(U)

As of May, 1947, subject was a member of the Edendale Club, LACCP, and had been a CP member for approximately eight years to that time. *✓*

T-23

(U)

In approximately 1947 and 1948, subject was being considered for membership on the Educational Committee of the LACCP. Subject had indicated that he was interested in same. *✓*

T-24

As of early 1950, subject was a member of the LACCP.

T-25

(U)

Informant learned in July, 1947 that a joint meeting of the Elysian Heights Club and of the Edendale Club, both of the LACCP, was scheduled to be held at the home of subject, 2328 Cove Avenue, Los Angeles on July 10, 1947. *✓*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LKD:nak  
LA 100-18762

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENTS MADE BY SUBJECT  
WHILE TEACHING MARXIST CLASSES

T-19

During the latter part of 1946, subject was the instructor of a series of Marxism classes conducted for the Hawthorne Club of the LACCP.

One such class was held at 13027 Yukon Avenue, Hawthorne, California on August 19, 1946. Subject classified the class struggle into four groups: (1) share cropper, (2) factory worker, (3) petty bourgeoisie, (4) farmers. He stated that the factory workers are the most capable of the mentioned groups to head a revolution because they are organized and have nothing to lose. They are best led by the "Vanguard Party", otherwise known as the CP. Even with Communist leadership, however, unions are politically limited because they vote as individuals. As long as the unions and the petty bourgeoisie think as individuals, they are limited. The factory workers make up only a small percentage of the population in the United States. However, that is no set back because in Russia at the time of the Revolution there were only three million Communists. Subject continued that if, for example, the National Maritime Union decided to vote as a block and not as individual people the Revolution would be under way and a Soviet proletariat group would be an actuality. If this group then were joined in their block voting by, for example, the United Auto Workers - CIO, the comparison would be as to the Revolution of Moscow and Petrograd. Subject further stated in the course of this class that the Communist assignment of today is as it has always been to join unions and other groups and to instruct as to the tactics to use to successfully overthrow the capitalist state. Subject enumerated four qualifications of a Communist, namely: (1) Discipline, (2) Sacrifice, (3) Militancy and (4) Revolutionary.

Another of the above-mentioned classes in Marxism was held at 13015 Shoup Avenue, Hawthorne, on September 4, 1946. Subject spoke on Imperialism, Monopoly, and Capitalism. Among other things subject described such corporations as the General Electric Company, the Standard Oil Company, Standard Brands, et al as enemies of the workers and as having uncompromising fascist attitudes.

IKD:nak  
LA 100-18762

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW THEATRE LEAGUE

The Special Committee on Un-American Activities, report of March 29, 1944, pages 120, 171, and 177 cited the New Theatre League as a Communist front.

DPW, issue of  
November, 1949, page 5

An article entitled "Classes Moved to Factories. Los Angeles Labor School Expands Spring Program" described HARRY HAY as a former executive director of the New Theatre League in New York.

PEOPLE'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION (PEA) aka  
PEOPLE'S EDUCATIONAL CENTER (PEC)

The PEA has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-28

Informant furnished information in April, 1948 which indicated that as of approximately June, 1944 subject was enrolled at the PEC, Los Angeles for a class in elements of dialectical and historical materialism.

T-30

Subject was an instructor at the PEC during the spring term which started on April 14, 1947.

PEOPLE'S SONGS

People's Songs was cited as a Communist front by the California Committee on Un-American Activities, report of 1948, page 392. ✓

DPW, issue of  
March 26, 1947

In an article entitled, "Dekker to Appear at Hootenanny", it was stated that HARRY HAY of People's Songs would be present at a "pre-election hootenanny" sponsored by

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: January 26, 1955

FROM : SAC, San Diego (62-848)

SUBJECT: HARRY HAYS  
SECURITY MATTER - C

HCUA HEARINGS  
SAN DIEGO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-17-90 BY SP1AG/JC  
3155 29

The HCUA held hearings at San Diego, California from April 19, 1954 to April 22, 1954. The results of these hearings are reported in "Investigation of Communist Activities in the State of California", Parts 1 through 10. Pertinent information concerning the above captioned person appears as follows:

Part 6, Page 4791:

On April 20, 1954, STEPHEN WEREB, Inglewood, California, testified that he had been a member of the Communist Party (CP) from October, 1943 to the latter part of 1947, as an informant for the FBI.

During his testimony, WEREB was asked whether during his membership the Hawthorne CP, either as a club or through any member in the club, was openly advocating the use of revolutionary force and violence; if not at that time, ultimately as part of the CP program. WEREB stated that the County Educational Committee sent several teachers to the club and that the first such teacher told the group that there would be a revolution and when this revolution did come there would be people hurt, there would be many people killed, there would be a lot of bloodshed, and also workers would be hurt, which was a thing that couldn't be helped. On the second occasion another teacher was delegated, this teacher being the subject, HARRY HAYS. The series of classes, including the ones HAYS instructed, were on basic Marxism or Leninism and WEREB stated HAYS was questioned about what he meant about overhauling the election system in the country. He said, "Well let's take the National Maritime Union; those fellows are never in port, not one-third of them. How can they actually go out and vote?" He said under a Marxist system, Marxist plan, we could have one

DNG:jes  
cc: 1 - Los Angeles

67 FEB 10 1955 K433

RECORDED - 71

SE 16

100-211619-21  
29 JAN 31 1955

INT. SEC.

*See index*  
*100-135-11*  
*HARRY HAYS*

*5-1*

*W. J. ...*

*W. J. ...*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-211619)  
FROM : SAC, Los Angeles (100-18762)  
SUBJECT: HARRY HAY, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: 4/13/55

OO: LA

Re San Diego letter to the Bureau, 1/26/55, copy to Los Angeles.

Relet reflects that on 4/20/54, STEPHEN WEREB, Inglewood, California, testified at the HCUA hearings held at San Diego, California, from 4/19/54 to 4/22/54. He stated that he had been a member of the CP from October, 1943, to the latter part of 1947. He further testified that during this time he was a member of the Hawthorne CP and that on one occasion HARRY HAYS, a schoolteacher, conducted a class on basic Marxism or Leninism at one of the club meetings.

HARRY HAY is on the Security Index of the Los Angeles Office and this information will be incorporated in the next report submitted on HAY.

HAY's Security Index card has been reviewed and it is current and accurate.

FLB/ms  
(3)  
REGISTERED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-17-90 BY SP1AG/PC  
315529

RECORDED-99

EX-126

100-211619-22

8 APR 18 1955

FBI  
INTERNAL SECURITY SECT. INT. SEC.

APR 18 5 28 PM '55

RECEIVED

FBI  
INTERNAL SECURITY SECT.  
APR 15 1955

RECEIVED  
71 APR 20 1955

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-211619)

DATE: 8/11/55

*Handwritten initials*

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-18762)

SUBJECT: HARRY HAY, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
(OO: Los Angeles)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-17-90 BY SP1 AB/SC  
3/5529

Rerep of SA [redacted] at Los Angeles dated 6/16/55, and Los Angeles letter to the Bureau dated 6/16/55.

On 7/2/55, Mr. [redacted] West Coast representative, House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA), who has furnished reliable information in the past, and whose identity should be concealed if used in a report, orally advised SA JOHN S. TEMPLE that HARRY HAY, represented by FRANK PESTANA, attorney-at-law, Los Angeles, California, appeared before the HCUA which convened in Room 518, Federal Building, Los Angeles, California, on 7/2/55.

b6  
b7C

HAY advised the Committee that he was born on 4/7/12, in England, and arrived in the United States in 1916; that he is a U. S. citizen by virtue of his parents' birth; and that he is employed as a production control engineer.

HARRY HAY had previously been identified before the Committee as a member of the CP by STEPHEN A. WEREB, former informant for the FBI, and, in particular, was identified as a former instructor for the California Labor School (CLS) in or about 1950.

HAY, during the course of his testimony, referred to WEREB as a "stool pigeon." He further declined to furnish any information whatsoever concerning himself or the fact that he was ever employed as a teacher, had any connection with music, or ever conducted classes for the CLS. He invoked the First and Fifth Amendments of the Constitution for all questions concerning his former or present membership in the CP.

In Los Angeles letter to the Bureau dated 6/16/55, recommendation was made that HARRY HAY be deleted from the

DWE:dlg  
(3)

REGISTERED

323 1955

*Handwritten stamp*  
EX-104

RECORDED-48

INDEXED-48

*Handwritten file number*  
100-211619-26

14 AUG 16 1955

*Handwritten initials*  
SEARCHED

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-211619)

DATE: February 28, 1956

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-18762)

SUBJECT: HARRY HAY, was.  
SM - C

*Ask for FD 122 WPA  
(see serial 13 particularly page  
15 T-24) JPR JPM*

OO: Los Angeles.

Rebulet 1/18/52 captioned "CP, U.S.A., District 13, Los Angeles Division; IS - C".

HARRY HAY testified before the HCUA in Los Angeles, California, on 7/2/55, in public session. His testimony appears in the HCUA publication "Investigation of Communist Activities in the Los Angeles, California area", pages 1872-1875, and is maintained in Los Angeles 62-1664-1B24.

HAY refused to answer any questions concerning membership or activities in the Communist Party or Communist Front Groups, basing his refusal on the First and Fifth Amendments.

By Los Angeles letter to the Bureau of 6/16/55, it was recommended that HAY be removed from the SI in view of the lack of information to indicate that he had been active in the Communist Party or Front Groups since 1950, except HASP membership in 1954, and the Bureau concurred with this recommendation. This case has been re-evaluated in the light of current SI criteria, and it is recommended that HAY continue to be kept off of the SI since there is no evidence of activity on his part since 1950, except for HASP membership in 1954.

No request for interview is being submitted at this time, inasmuch as it is believed that an attempt to interview HAY would be unavailing in view of his refusal to testify before the HCUA. No further investigation is being conducted at the present time and this case is being placed in a closed status.

- C -

- 2 - Bureau (100-211619) (Reg.)
  - 1 - Los Angeles (100-18762)
- RCH:HMS  
(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-17-90 BY SP1AG/SC

315529

RECORDED - 94

100-211619-27

17 MAR 5 1956

EX-125

SUBV. CONTROL

*File to Los Angeles  
3-16-56  
WBA*

*JFM*

*mb*

*U*

LA 100-18762

(U) [Informants who have furnished reliable information in the past advised that HARRY HAY joined the Communist Party (CP) in Los Angeles, California, in the spring of 1934, but subsequently dropped out. He rejoined the CP in Los Angeles in 1938 and was a member thereof in early 1950. HARRY HAY has also been active in, or in connection with, such organizations or publications as the "Daily People's World," 1942; the New Theater League, 1949; and the Independent Progressive Party, 1948. He was a member of the Hollywood Arts, Sciences and Professions Council in 1954. (S)

HAY declined to furnish any information regarding himself before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Los Angeles on July 2, 1955. He invoked the First and Fifth Amendments of the Constitution for all questions concerning his former or present CP membership.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Anderson

SAC, Los Angeles (100-18762)

March 16, 1956

RECORDED - 81

Director, FBI (100-211619)

HARRY HAY  
SECURITY MATTER - C

EX-125

Reurlet dated February 28, 1956.

In view of Hay's refusal to answer questions concerning Communist membership on the basis of the Fifth Amendment before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) at Los Angeles July 2, 1955, plus his extensive subversive background, the Bureau feels that he should be included in the Security Index. Submit Form FD-122.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-17-90 BY SPINER

315529

COMM FBI  
MAR 16 1956  
MAILED 30

WBA:mmf

(4) mmf

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

63 MAR 20 1956

JFB  
VDH  
WBA

MAR 20 1956

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:

[REDACTED]

b6

b7c

Office: LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Date:

6/15/61

Field Office File No.:

100-18762

Bureau File No.:

100-211619

Title:

HARRY HAY

Character:

SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Logical informants are unaware of any current CP activity on the part of HARRY HAY. He was divorced by his wife 2/26/53.

-P-

DETAILS:BACKGROUND

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-17-90 BY SP1 AGJ/JC

315529

Residence and Employment

On June 5, 1961, by means of an appropriate pretext by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, it was ascertained that HARRY HAY is employed as a purchasing agent for Leahy Manufacturing Company, 1804 East 8th Street, Los Angeles, California.

On June 5, 1961, by means of an appropriate pretext interview by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, it was ascertained that HARRY HAY resides by himself at 1388 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles.

MISCELLANEOUS

Logical informants, who are generally familiar with Communist Party (CP) and related activities where HARRY HAY resides, advised they could furnish no current information indicating any participation by him in activities of the CP.

LA 100-18762

MARITAL STATUS

Records of Superior Court, Los Angeles County,  
California:

SE [redacted] on June 13, 1961, checked  
Divorce Record D 425 693 and obtained the following infor-  
mation:

*MRS.* ANITA HAY, as plaintiff, filed divorce action  
against HARRY HAY December 4, 1951, alleging extreme cruelty.  
They had two adopted children, [redacted] age [redacted]  
years, and [redacted] age [redacted] years. Final judgment of  
divorce was granted February 26, 1953, and custody of the  
children was awarded to ANITA HAY, plaintiff.

b6  
b7C

APPROX [redacted]

APPROX [redacted]