

to identify the dates more specifically and they could not understand what Pound said. However, the attorney or attorneys who are to try the case should be satisfied as to the sufficiency of this proof of the overt act.

I believe (b)(7)(C) should be brought over to testify before the grand jury. The other major witnesses presently available appear to be Special Agent (b)(7)(C) who can introduce Pound's admission of citizenship and the making of the records for broadcasts; (b)(7)(C) who can testify that Pound brought his manuscripts to the Italian government for clearance; (b)(7)(C) who can testify that Pound made recordings for broadcasts; (b)(7)(C) who can testify that Pound's records were broadcast to the United States; (b)(7)(C) who can testify as to payments to Pound by the Italian government for his broadcasts; and the F.C.C. men who monitored the broadcasts in the United States. It may be advisable also to have some of the above witnesses who are in Europe present before the grand jury.

Mc
~~In short, we are not asking the Army to return Pound until the matters discussed herein have been clarified.~~

TLC:SCE:vng

12
October 22, 1945

146-7-3672

airmail

617(C)

Dear 617(C) :

This acknowledges your letter of October 12, 1945, relative to the approximate date of the trial of Pound, Kaltenbach, and others.

Although it is not possible at this time to fix even the approximate dates of the trials of these persons, we will appreciate your furnishing us with your itinerary so that we will be able to get in touch with you in the event you are needed as a witness.

I wish to thank you for your interest in this matter.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

THOMAS L. CAUDLE,
Assistant Attorney General.

CC: Records ✓
Caton.
Ely



JOHN HAYES

FRANK A. HAYES

OCT 16 1945

SIXTY FOURTH STREET AND UNIVERSITY AVENUE

PHONE HYDE PARK 4400 CHICAGO 37

Oct. 12, 1945.

Mr. Tom C. Clark,
Attorney General,
Washington, D.C.

VIA AIR MAIL

Dear Mr. Clark:

Last summer I spent days with your Denver men sorting out of my files the evidence against Ezra Pound.

Since then I have been trying to find out from the FBI, Denver, at what approximate time the trial will come off so I can arrange my extensive travel and lecture itinerary accordingly. But so far Denver was unable to accommodate me.

Now I am planning a trip of several weeks during which it may not be possible to reach me. Hence if you are counting on me as a witness against Pound, Kaltenbach, et al., it would be a good idea to let me know just what the approximate date might be.

Sincerely yours,

617(C)

Home Address:

L.H.

OCT 16 1945

107-477

107-477-1000

TLC:SCB:vng

November 29, 1945

146-28-237-1

RECORD

(617CC)
Cavalier, North Dakota.

Dear (617CC)

In compliance with your recent request, I am enclosing a copy of the indictment returned July 26, 1943, against Fred W. Kaltenbach. Similar indictments were returned on that date against Douglas Chandler, Edward Leo Delaney, Robert H. Best, Ezra Pound, Max Otto Koischwitz, Constance Drexel and Jane Anderson.

Chandler, Delaney and Drexel are presently in the custody of our military authorities in Europe. Koischwitz is believed to be deceased, and the whereabouts of Kaltenbach, Best and Anderson is unknown. Ezra Pound is presently in custody in the District of Columbia, and a new indictment was returned against him on November 26, 1945. A copy of this indictment is enclosed. The date of his trial has not as yet been set.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

THEODORE L. CAUDLE,
Assistant Attorney General.

Enc. 93699.

CC: Records ✓
Chron.
Mr. Ely.

[copy]

146-28-237-1

OCT 9 1945
DI December 8, 1945

B. V. L.

Honorable Kenneth Royall
Underscretary of War
Washington, D. C.

My dear General Royall:

As you know, treason indictments were returned in the District of Columbia on July 26, 1943, against eight American citizens who were acting as propaganda broadcasters for the enemy. These persons were:

Frederick Wilhelm Kaltenbach
Robert Henry Best, alias "Mr. Guess Who"
Douglas Chandler, alias "Paul Revere"
Edward Leo Delaney, alias "E. D. Ward"
Max Otto Oscar Koischwitz, alias "Dr. Anders", "O.K."
Constance Draxel
Jane Anderson, alias "Marquesa de Cienfuegos"
Ezra Pound

All were broadcasting from Berlin or elsewhere in Germany except Ezra Pound, who disseminated his propaganda from Rome.

Pound has been returned to the United States and is presently facing trial on charges of treason. Kaltenbach is reportedly in the custody of the Russian authorities, although this fact has not been definitely ascertained. Best and Anderson have not yet been taken into custody and their present whereabouts are unknown. Chandler is in the custody of our military authorities and is presently incarcerated in the Paris Civilian Interrogation Center. Draxel is also in the custody of our military authorities and is under detention in Salzburg, Austria. Delaney was taken into custody by our military authorities at Prague, Czechoslovakia, but his present place of incarceration is not known. Koischwitz reportedly died in 1944, but this fact has not yet been verified.

This Department has also received considerable information concerning three additional Americans,

(617(C))
who have broadcast propaganda for the German Reich, the former from a Berlin station and the latter two persons from Paris, France. (617(C)) is presently in the custody of our military.

file
see

authorities at Bad Toelz, Germany. It is believed that (C17CC) are in Paris, but that they are not in custody.

In addition to these persons, information has been received relative to the activities of a considerable number of other American citizens who collaborated with the Germans either by engaging in broadcasting activities or by other methods of cooperation. Most of these persons have been interrogated by the military authorities and by representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but it is not believed that any are in custody at the present time. The attached list contains the names of these persons and a brief statement relative to their activities. It is, of course, very likely that information may be received concerning other collaborationists.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation no longer has representatives in Europe, and this Department is therefore sending three attorneys, Samuel C. Ely, Clyde E. Gooch, and Victor C. Weerheide, and two secretaries,

(C17CC) there in the immediate future to develop the cases against these individuals and prepare them for trial where the evidence indicates that prosecution is warranted. In order that these cases may be successfully prepared and presented, it will be necessary for the Army to furnish our representatives five or six experienced investigators and transportation facilities for the efficient investigation of these cases throughout Germany, France, Austria, and other countries in which evidence might be obtained.

In the course of their activities, our representatives will need sufficient office space and proper equipment in Berlin, Paris, and possibly other cities, when and where necessary. It is possible that additional investigators and clerical assistance may be required.

It is also desired that the military authorities furnish adequate accommodations for food and lodging, laundry facilities, and that privileges be extended to them to make purchases at Army post exchanges and commissaries during their stay in Europe.

It is probable that in the course of the investigation some of the witnesses and documents will likely be located in the areas or zones occupied by some of our allies. Therefore, it is requested that the necessary arrangements be made for access to these areas by our representatives and their investigators and for the interrogation of such persons and for the examination and acquisition of such documents if they are

material to the cases under investigation.

The personnel of this Department should be provided with such credentials by the Army as will enable them to travel day and night as the occasion may demand and should be sufficient in themselves to allow immediate access into, and freedom of travel within, any sector under the military control of the United States or its allies. Consequently, adequate means of transportation, including drivers, should be available at all times to our representatives. In furtherance of their duties it is also desired that they be quartered among the officers so that their freedom of movement will not be restricted.

It is desired to complete the investigation of these cases as expeditiously as possible, and where prosecution is warranted, to bring the cases to trial at an early date. The full and complete cooperation of our military authorities in Europe is indispensable to the success of this mission.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

THORON L. CAUDLE
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure No. 375192.

Los Angeles

CRIMINAL DIVISION
March 5th, 1946
MAR 13 1946
RECEIVED

The Honorable Tom Clark
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Clark:

Are congratulations in order to the
Department of Justice on the following:

The seditionists set free
Ezra Pound set free

677(C) set free
set free

Robert Best -on his way?

5 members of the Department to travel to Germany to seewhat?
Free the men on trial at Nuremberg?

We long-suffering taxpayers ask? Is the
Justice Department protecting Americans or Germans and German
lovers?

Very respectfully

677(C)

J. F. W.

7-11-46-28-237-1
MIG
2000-011111

Clarke

Tom DeWolfe
Samely

LME

6 January, 1947.

Director of Public Relations,
The Department of Justice,
Constitution Avenue, Between 9th and 10th Streets, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1947
CRIMINAL DIVISION

146-28-248

Sir:

As a student at Yale Law School now writing a paper on propagandizing for the enemy as a possible basis for a treason charge, I am writing to ask for a copy of the grand jury indictment returned against Robert Best and Douglas Chandler on December 30, 1946, at Boston. If a copy is not available at the Department, I would appreciate knowing from what source I can obtain a copy.

146-24-232

146-28-237-1

In addition, information is requested, if available, of the official status of the cases pending against the following: Frederick W. Kaltenbach, Ezra Pound, Edward Delaney, Constance Drexel, Jane Anderson, and Max Koischwitz. There have been numerous stories in the papers about the whereabouts of these persons, named with Best and Chandler in July, 1943, as traitors, but I desire the official status of these persons in the view of the Department.

If that information is available for release, I would also be interested in knowing whether any further persons are considered by the Department as coming within the category of propagandists, indictable for treason or any lesser offenses under the Espionage Act.

If my paper would be of any interest to the Department, I would be glad to forward a copy when it is completed this month. It is being prepared under of the law faculty and also connected with the department.

Very truly yours,

776
New Haven, Conn.

RECORDED
1.

146-28-237-1
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JAN 10 1947
DIVISION OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

RECEIVED
JAN 8 - 1947
DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

CRIM. - INTERNAL SECURITY SEC.

TLC:SCZ:DTJ

RECORDED

146-28-237-1

R. V. L.

January 15, 1947

(e7CC)

New Haven, Connecticut

Dear (e7CC)

This will acknowledge your letter of January 6, 1947, addressed to the Public Relations Director of this Department concerning the official status of the Treason cases pending against Robert Best, Douglas Chandler and others.

In compliance with your request, I am enclosing copies of the indictments that were returned against Best and Chandler in the District of Massachusetts on December 30, 1946.

In response to your other inquiries, I can state that Max Koischwitz and Frederick W. Kaltenbach are reported to have died of natural causes in July 1944 and October 1945, respectively. Ezra Pound was adjudged mentally incompetent and is presently in St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C. The whereabouts of Jane Anderson is unknown. Treason indictments are still pending against her, Constance Drexel and Edward Delaney in the District of Columbia; however, recent investigation has disclosed that Drexel made only a few wartime broadcasts which consisted entirely of comments on social events and musical programs, and that Delaney made no broadcasts with possibly one or two exceptions after the United States entered the war.

I am sure you can understand that it would be impossible for me to reveal whether or not criminal action is being considered against other persons who collaborated with the enemy although I can say that the activities of all American citizens who may have aided the enemy during the war have been or are being investigated.

cc: Records
Chron.
Mr. Ely

INSPECTED AND MAILED
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
JAN 15 1947 AJ

FILED
OR
JAN 20 1947

TAL
pat
ba

The Department of Justice will be very pleased to receive a copy of your paper on propagandizing for the enemy when it is completed.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

THERON L. CAUDLE
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure
No. 495613

November 15, 1947.

The Attorney General of the United States,
Att. Chief, Criminal Division,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED

NOV 18 1947

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Sir:

In letter TLC:SCE:DTJ, 146-28-237-1, Mr. Theron Caudle of the Criminal Division furnished me with certain information concerning treason indictments for a paper, which I was preparing here at Yale Law School. I sent the original of that paper to the department for use in the Chandler and Best cases, where I presume it is still being used, since it has not been returned.

I am now interested in bringing that paper, entitled "Treason on the Air," up to date. For that reason, I wonder whether I could have the following information, subject, of course, to the possibility that the information may not be available for publicity as yet. But, if such information is available for the public, I would very much appreciate receiving it:

*was to be
ad 1/15/47
il about
5/48*

- (1) Status of appeal in Chandler case. Date of COA argument, if known.
- (2) Status of indictment against Best.
- (3) Status of Miss Mildred Gillars ('Axis Sally'), whether under arrest in Germany or here in U.S. and whether indictment has been planned.
- (4) Status of Ezra Pound (last in St. Elizabeth's), Jane Anderson (dead or found), Constance Drexel, and Edward Delaney.
- (5) Any other treason cases pending.

*No date set.
Read was
get printed
and filed*

*Check with
Sally*

Respectfully,

Starr

677CC

677CC

New Haven, Conn.

Dismissed

Pending

146-28-237-1

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
NOV 23 1947
DIVISION OF RECORDS

CRIM - INTERNAL SECURITY - SEC

R.V.L.

DeLoach

TVQ:RPW:DTJ

146-31-237-1

R V L

December 1, 1947

DEC 4 1947
F M R
D

RECORDED

6.7(c)

New Haven, Connecticut

Dear 6.7(c)

In your letter of November 15, 1947, you asked certain questions concerning treason indictments for use in a paper being prepared at the Yale Law School. Insofar as the information is available, I shall answer these in the order in which you set them forth:

1. The record in the Chandler case has not yet been perfected or filed, and, consequently, no date has been set for the argument of the case in the Circuit Court of Appeals.
2. Motions made in the Best case have been set for argument in the District Court at Boston, Massachusetts, on December 16, 1947. It is anticipated that the case will be reached for trial about mid-February.
3. Mildred Gillars is in custody of military authorities abroad.
4. With respect to the remainder of inquiries, the desired information is as follows:

Ezra Pound remains committed to St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C. Jane Anderson has been released from the custody of military authorities abroad, this Department having determined that the evidence available was wholly insufficient to sustain prosecution; the indictment against her returned in the District of Columbia in 1943 was thereupon dismissed. The indictment against Constance Brexel returned in the District of Columbia in 1943 remains in a pending status. Edward Leo Delaney, who was also indicted for treason in the District of Columbia

INSERED AND MAILED
COMMUNIST
DEC 1 1947

cc: Records
Chron.
Mr. Whsarty
Mr. Foley

in 1943, returned to the United States at the Port of New York, August 8, 1947. Inasmuch as venue would lie in the district to which he returned or in which he was first found, a complaint charging treason was forthwith filed with the United States Commissioner in the Southern District of New York and the defendant apprehended upon a warrant issued thereunder and held in default of bail. Shortly thereafter the case was presented to a grand jury for the Southern District of New York, the evidence being supplemented by the testimony of all material foreign witnesses, and such grand jury failed to return a true bill. The complaint was thereupon dismissed and subsequently the indictment in the District of Columbia was also dismissed.

I regret that, except as above set forth which is a matter of public record, I am unable to answer the remaining inquiries of your letter of November 15, 1947.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

T. VINCENT QUINN
Assistant Attorney General

AMC:WBF:lr

146-28-237

December 20, 1948

B. D. B.

(17CC)

Chillicothe, Ohio

Dear

Reference is made to your letter of December 3, 1948, addressed to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation and to Mr. Hoover's reply of December 13, 1948.

For your information, two of the individuals who were indicted for treason in the District of Columbia in 1943 have been convicted and are under sentence of life imprisonment. They are Douglas Chandler and Robert H. Best. Chandler appealed and the Circuit Court of Appeals for the First Circuit has recently affirmed the decision. Best's appeal is now pending. Ezra Pound, as you know, has been declared mentally incapable to stand trial and is confined to St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C. A recent examination indicates that Pound is still unable to stand trial.

Two of the persons indicted for treason, Max Koischnitz and Fred Kaltenbach, died in Germany prior to the end of the war. Edward Leo Delaney was brought to the United States in August of 1947. Since he came first to the jurisdiction of the Southern District of New York, it was necessary that an indictment be obtained against him in that district. When the facts relating to Delaney were presented to a grand jury in the Southern District of New York, the grand jury voted a no true bill. Since the facts relating to Constance Drexel were generally similar to those in the Delaney case and since, in any event, she could not be tried in the District of Columbia,

CC: Records
Chrono.
Mr. Foley

RECEIVED AND MAILED
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
DEC 21 1948
WS

Confidential

AMC by WBF

having first come to another judicial district, the indictment against her was dismissed. For similar reasons, the indictment against Jane Anderson, who is still somewhere in Europe, was also dismissed. The dismissal of the indictments against Drexel and Anderson does not foreclose subsequent reindictment, should the facts available as legal evidence in a treason prosecution warrant it.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

ALEXANDER M. CAMPBELL
Assistant Attorney General

Los Angeles California, April 6, 195

Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I am deeply interested in the case of Ezra Pound who has been accused of treason and is now a patient in St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington.

Pound has been accused of uttering treasonable remarks during certain broadcasts for the Italian Government during the last war. I should like very much to get further information regarding these broadcasts etc. If at all possible, I should like to get copies of his so-called treasonable utterances, together with whatever evidence the government may have on file that he, Pound, uttered them. In brief, I should like to get all available information regarding the case of Ezra Pound. I have been informed that this information is available upon payment of a small fee. If your office does not handle this information, then will you please turn this letter over to the department concerned.

Thank you and sincerely

(617(C))

Los Angeles 27, California

776-
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED
APR 10 1955
FBI - LOS ANGELES

✓

JMM:DLF:rb

146-7-3672

April 14, 1950

L.O.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(6,7 CC)

Los Angeles 27, California

Dear (6,7 CC)

Re: United States v. Ezra Pound

Reference is made to your letter of April 6, 1950, requesting information regarding the above entitled matter.

As you know, Pound was indicted in the District of Columbia in 1945 for treason. Shortly thereafter, and prior to trial, he was adjudged to be of unsound mind and was committed to St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D.C. The indictment which was returned against Pound is still outstanding, and under the circumstances I am sure you can appreciate that it is impossible for me to make available to you the information that you have requested.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

JAMES M. McINERNEY
Assistant Attorney General

RECEIVED AND MAILED
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
APR 14 1950 A.M.

✓ Records
Miss Hamlin
Miss Fillius

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

November 28, 1950

The Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am working on a doctoral dissertation on the life of Ezra Pound for the department of English at the University of California in Berkeley. At present I am on leave of absence to do research in the Library of Congress.

Would you please tell me if it would be possible for me to have copies of the material in your files of the treason charges and evidence against Mr. Pound and any other relevant information?

If such copies are not available would you tell me if and where I might examine the originals?

Thank you very much for your courtesy.

Sincerely yours,

617(C)

Brookeville, Maryland

J. K. H.

146-7-3672

NOV 30 1950
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

✓

100-9371-1632

JMM:DLF:vb

146-7-3672

December 6, 1950

(6,7(C))

Brookeville, Maryland

Dear

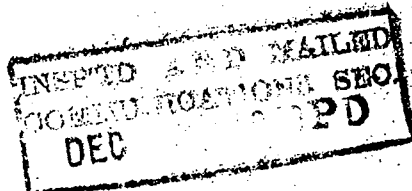
Re: United States v. Ezra Pound

Reference is made to your letter of November 28, 1950, requesting copies of the treason charge and evidence contained in the files of this Department in the above entitled matter.

I am enclosing a copy of the indictment which was returned against Pound in the District of Columbia in 1945. As you know, shortly after the return of the indictment and prior to trial Pound was adjudged to be of unsound mind and was committed to St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D. C. The indictment is still outstanding against Pound and should he be adjudged sane at sometime in the future, he would be subject to trial under that indictment. Under these circumstances I am sure you can appreciate that it is impossible to furnish copies of any of the material in the confidential files of this Department concerning Pound or to make such material available to the public for inspection.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General



JAMES M. McINERNEY
Assistant Attorney General

Enc. No. 76379

Records
Miss Hamlin
Miss Fillius

February 27, 1951

Mr. James McInerney
Head of Criminal Division
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

RECEIVED

FEB 28 1951

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Dear Sir:

In relation to a research project in poetry, I am interested in reading the testimony of Ezra Pound during his trial for treason. The date of "A TRUE BILL", a copy of which was published by John S. Mayfield of the Park Book Shop, Washington, D.C., is July, 1943.

Can you please suggest any method, such as photostatic copy, microfilm, etc., whereby this material may be made available for my purpose?

I shall greatly appreciate whatever cooperation you find it possible to offer.

Respectfully,

(617CC)

ADDRESS:

(617CC)
Chestnut Hill, 67,
Massachusetts

RECORDED

142-1-5672

MAR 5 1951

CRIM. DIVISION

ORIGINAL SECURITY SEC

131

JMM:DLF:yb

146-7-3672

March 8, 1951

(6,7CC)

Chestnut Hill 67, Massachusetts

Dear (6,7CC)

Reference is made to your letter of February 27, 1951, requesting to be advised whether a copy of the testimony of Ezra Pound during his treason trial could be made available to you for use in connection with a research project in poetry.

Ezra Pound was first indicted for treason on July 26, 1943, in the District of Columbia. Subsequently, on November 26, 1945, a superseding indictment for treason was returned against Pound in that district. Shortly thereafter and prior to trial Pound was adjudged to be of unsound mind and was committed to St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D. C. Because of this commitment Pound has never been brought to trial on the treason charges alleged in the indictment. However, the indictment is still outstanding against Pound, and should he be adjudged sane at some time in the future, he would be subject to trial under that indictment. I am enclosing for your information a copy of the indictment which was returned against Pound in November 1945.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

JAMES M. McINERNEY
Assistant Attorney General

Records
Miss Hamlin
Miss Fillius

Enc. No. 763

INSPTD AND MAILED
COMMUNICATIONS SEC
MAR 12 1951
CN

617(C)

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

March 26, 1951

Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED

MAR 29 1951

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Dear Sirs:

Could you possibly send me a copy of the Grand Jury's indictment of Ezra Pound? I would also be interested in seeing a copy of the proceedings against him. I hope this wouldn't be too much bother.

Sincerely yours,

617(C)

RECORDED
B

146-7-3672	
DEPT. OF JUSTICE	OFFICE
MAR 29 1951	
DIVISION	

CRIM. - INTERNATIONAL CONTROL SEAL
A.C.K.

617(C)

Chestnut Hill - Massachusetts

RECEIVED

APR 5 1951

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter labelled 146-7-3672 with enclosure no. 76374, Treason indictment (18 U.S.C. 1).

For further investigation in my project I should like access to copies of some of 'Ezra Pound's' broadcasts from Italy on short wave. Can you suggest how these may be obtained?

Yours truly,

617(C)

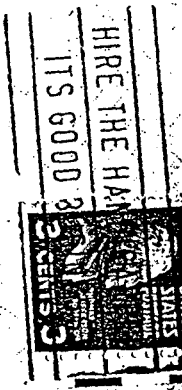
RECORDED

146-7-3672
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APR 5 1951
DIVISION OF RECORDS

CRIM - INTERNAL SECURITY SEC

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1395



The Attorney General
 of Mass: Dept of Justice
 146-7-3672
 Dept of Justice
 Washington D.C.

617CC)

Christina Hill

Mass

617(5)
EAST PROVIDENCE
RECEIVED

APR 12 1951 APRIL 9 1951

Criminal Division

APR

DEAR MR. McGRATH, A.K.

PLEASE

GRANT EZRA POUND
CIVIL RIGHTS.

AND COMFORT TO AID ✓
WAS THE POET'S DESIRE. US

DEBATE WAS THE AID
OF HIS FASCIST HOSTS

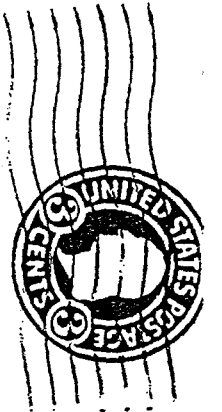
(2)

THEY
GUARANTEED HE MIGHT
LIMIT HIS COMMENT
TO SUCH AS SQUARED
WITH HIS CONSCIENCE
AS AN AMERICAN
CITIZEN.

ANNOUNCEMENT
OF THIS PLEDGE PRECEDED
SOME OF MR. POUND'S
EARLY BROADCASTS.

WHAT IS
TREASONABLE ABOUT
EXERCISING THE RIGHT
TO FREE DISCUSSION
UNDER OUR CONSTITUTION?
RESPECTFULLY, (6700)

E. PROV. 14
R. I.



HOWARD McGRATH
WASHINGTON
D. C.

JMM:ELF:vb

146-7-3672

April 10, 1951

APR 11 1951

617(C)

Nashville, Tennessee

Dear 617(C)

Reference is made to your letter of March 26, 1951, requesting copies of the indictment in the Ezra Pound case and of the proceedings against him.

Ezra Pound was first indicted for treason on July 26, 1943, in the District of Columbia. Subsequently, on November 26, 1945, a superseding indictment for treason was returned against Pound in that district. Shortly thereafter and prior to trial Pound was adjudged to be of unsound mind and was committed to St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D. C. Because of this commitment, Pound was never brought to trial on the treason charges alleged in the indictment. Consequently, the only proceeding against Pound was that in connection with the hearing as to his sanity, and the Department does not have transcripts of that proceeding available for distribution to the public. I am, however, enclosing a copy of the indictment which was returned against Pound in November 1945.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

JAMES M. McINERNEY
Assistant Attorney General

Enc. No. 76416

Records
Miss Fillius
Miss Hamlin

RECORDED AND INDEXED
APR 11 1951

JK
100K
JH

JH

136

JMM:DLF:vb

146-7-3672

April 10, 1951

copy

BY M B
ON APR 12 1951

617(C)
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Dear 617(C)

Reference is made to your recent letter requesting information as to how you may obtain access to copies of Ezra Pound's shortwave broadcasts from Italy.

The indictment which was returned against Pound in 1945 is still outstanding against him and should he be adjudged of sound mind at any time in the future, he would be subject to trial under that indictment. Under these circumstances I am sure you can appreciate that it is impossible to furnish copies or make available for inspection such transcripts of Pound's broadcast as may be contained in the confidential files of this Department.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

JAMES M. MCINERNEY
Assistant Attorney General

Records
Miss Hamlin
Miss Fillius

INSERTED AND INDEXED
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
APR 11 1951 BR

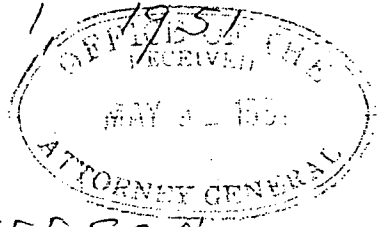
Handwritten initials

Handwritten scribble

617(C)

EAST PROVIDENCE 14

MAY 1



DEAR MR. McGRATH,

JEFFERSON

DAVIS, WHOSE ARREST FOR
TREASON EMBARRASSED OUR
FEDERAL PROSECUTORS AFTER
THE CIVIL WAR, FINALLY
WENT FREE ON BAIL
FURNISHED BY CONSTRUCTIVELY
THINKING CITIZENS.

COULD NOT A
SIMILAR PROCEDURE SERVE TO
RELIEVE YOUR DEPARTMENT OF
ITS DEPLORABLE CASE AGAINST
EZRA POUND? I'D GLADLY
SURRENDER MY OWN LIBERTY
IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS.

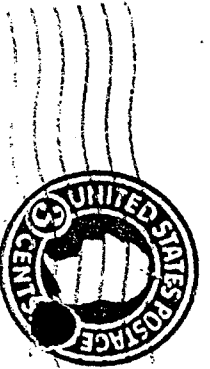
W. J. 3612

J. K. H.

RESPECTFULLY,

617(C)

(176)
E. PROV. ST
R. I.



HOWARD McGRATH
WASHINGTON
D. C.

CBM:DFG:vbm

146-7-3672

(Typed 11-5-52)

November 7 1952

617(C)
Portland 66, Oregon

617(C)

The Secretary of State has referred to me your letter of October 17, 1952, in which you inquire why Ezra Pound was tried for treason.

Pound was first indicted for treason on July 26, 1943 in the District of Columbia and a superseding indictment was returned against him on November 26, 1945. Both of these treason indictments were based on Pound's activities as a radio propagandist for the Italian Government during World War II. However, Pound was never brought to trial on the treason charges alleged in the indictment because prior to trial he was declared by the court to be of unsound mind, and therefore incapable of standing trial, and was committed to St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C. The treason indictment against Pound is still outstanding and should he be adjudged of sound mind at any time in the future, he would be subject to trial under the indictment.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

CHARLES B. MURRAY
Assistant Attorney General

FILED
BY HVG
On NOV 14 1952
BY J P M
On NOV 13 1952

Records
Chrono
Mrs. Green

INSPTD AND MAILED
COMMUNICATIONS SEC
NOV 7 1952 C

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DA

CBM
AM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U. S. A.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Handwritten signature

Department of Justice,
Washington 25, D. C.

Run Stop

617(C)
Atlantic City, N. J.
January 29, 1953

Dear Sirs,

CR

I am a student of Atlantic City High School. During the study of Modern American Poetry I have become interested in Ezra Pound. I know that he was indicted of treason in 1943. He was found to be of unsound mind and placed in a mental home.

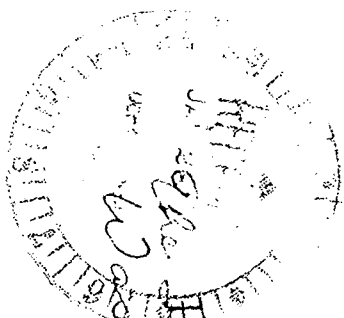
I can find no further information. If you would be so kind I would appreciate it to receive whatever information

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DEPT. OF JUSTICE	R
FEB 5 1953	M. M. Y.
	D

CRIM.-INTERNAL SECURITY SEC

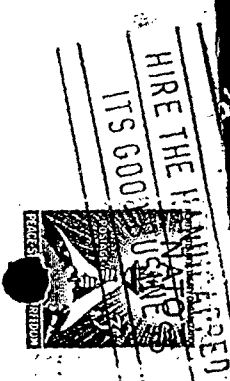
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617(c)
Atlantic City, N.J.



Mr. Harold Department
Washington, D.C.

P.L.



HIRE THE MAN WHO KNOWS HIS BUSINESS

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF LATIN AND GREEK
LAWRENCE

6/16

REC

(17CC)
Lawrence, Kansas
June 13, 1953

His Excellency Dwight D. Eisenhower
President of the United States
The White House, Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED

JUN 25 1953

Dear Mr. Eisenhower:

CRIMINAL DIVISION

I have never written to a President of the United States before, and I do so now only in behalf of another and with the hope of advancing the cause of justice. You are no doubt aware of the situation of Ezra Pound, who has been confined for more than seven years in St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C. As an American citizen I courteously inquire of you whether his case has come to your attention for review since you assumed office and, if not, whether you might now consider the facts involved with a view toward exercising clemency and bringing about the early release of Mr. Pound from detention.

I do not assume any knowledge of his situation beyond my personal acquaintance with Mr. Pound and all he has accomplished for the art, literature and thought of our time nor do I presume to judge those who apprehended him, examined him psychiatrically, and confined him without trial. I am, however, convinced that he is not criminally insane although obviously highly eccentric, that his error lay in inveighing on a foreign radio against usury and the administration of the late President F. D. Roosevelt and not in advocating any treasonable act, and that he is both a very kind and generous man and beyond doubt the greatest living poet now writing in English.

He has surely paid uncomplainingly (and his innocent wife even more in a manner we can only imagine) for whatever wrong he may be presumed to have done; there can be no question at this late date of a trial, his long incarceration being all that the United States government can require of him. Like Ezra Pound, I feel that a man must act according to his conscience; and in view of the considerations set forth above I am asking you to fulfill not only my own sincere wishes but those of many men and women here and abroad by freeing Ezra Pound from his imprisonment.

I am, very sincerely yours,

146-7-3672

JUN 24 1953

M. D. 7

(17CC)

CRIM.-INTERNAL SECURITY SEC

JUN 29 1953

Called for file
677(C)
Pittsburgh 32, Pa. 1179
October 27, 1953

The Honorable Robert J. Brownell
Attorney General for the United States
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

CR
OCT 30 1953
RECEIVED

Dear Sir:

Aware that you represent the Department of Justice, which exemplifies American justice, I write to you.

Aware that you are a very busy man, I write briefly and to the point.

Ezra Pound, one of the world's greatest living poets, is confined to St. Elizabeth's Hospital where he was committed seven years ago. He was taken to the United States from Italy where during the war he made radio broadcasts which were subsequently deemed treasonable.

There is no visible record of the four doctors who committed him.

There is no formal review of his condition to establish whether or not he is able to stand trial.

There is not one step being taken to effect his release from St. Elizabeth's, although he is indeed rational.

Our State Department has appointed a War Crimes Board for reducing German war crimes sentences of people who coldly murdered or aided in murder. Even today, known war criminals who directed mass murders are free.

Ezra Pound, who made radio broadcasts, remains for seven years, in exile in a mental institution.

Honorable Sir, this letter is a question which I hope, even with your many time-consuming activities, you might answer:

Are these two contrasting elements of American justice exemplars of our American democracy?

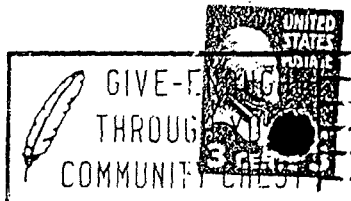
Very respectfully yours,

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NOV 2 1953
ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATIONS SECTION

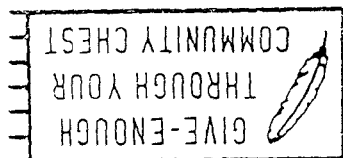
677(C)

146-7-367
OCT 29 1953

617(c)



The Honorable Robert J. Brownell
Attorney General for the United Sts.
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.



WO:DFG:ed

146-7-3672

Typed 11/19/53

November 23 1953

RECEIVED
-J, L, G, S
DEC 9 1953

(617(C))
Pittsburgh 32, Pa.

BY FM
On DEC 8 1953

Reference is made to your letter of October 27, 1953, concerning Ezra Pound.

Ezra Pound was first indicted in the District of Columbia on July 26, 1943, for treason. At the conclusion of World War II he ^{was} returned to the United States from Italy in custody, and on November 26, 1945, a superseding indictment was returned against him. Both of these treason indictments were based upon his activities as a radio propagandist for the Italian government during the war.

With respect to your comments concerning Ezra Pound's confinement to St. Elizabeths Hospital and your statements that there is no visible record of the four doctors who committed him and no formal review of his condition to establish whether he is able to stand trial, it may be of interest to you that the question of Mr. Pound's mental condition was first raised by his attorney, who, at the time of Mr. Pound's arraignment on the treason charge, made representations to the court that he was of unsound mind. Pursuant to the request of Mr. Pound's attorney, the court entered an order directing that the defendant Pound be transferred to a hospital for examination and observation by psychiatrists. In a joint written report to the court, the four psychiatrists who conducted the examination stated that Ezra Pound was insane and mentally unfit for trial, and in need of care in a mental hospital. Thereafter, upon order of the court, Mr. Pound was sent to St. Elizabeths Hospital for treatment and examination. Subsequently, upon motion of the Government, a formal sanity hearing was held by the court and Mr. Pound was adjudged to be legally insane and was committed by the court to St. Elizabeths Hospital, where he is presently confined.

✓ Records
Mrs. Green
Chrono

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COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
NOV 28 1953

W.B.M.
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The treason indictment of November 1945 is still outstanding against Ezra Pound, and if, at any time in the future, he should be adjudged to be legally sane, he would be subject to trial under that indictment.

Sincerely,

WARREN OLNEY III
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

By: WILLIAM E. FOLEY, Chief
Internal Security Section