

*Handwritten initials and date: 8/20*

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
MEMORANDUM

TO: SAC, ST. LOUIS (100-5238)

FROM: SA WALTER A. HILGENDORF

SUBJECT: SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY  
ST. LOUIS DIVISION  
IS - SWP

DATE: 8/6/63

The following report from [redacted] was received on ediphone belt via U. S. mail 7/8/63. It was transcribed 7/16/63 by steno RUTHANN CARR and authenticated by informant 7/31/63. The original copy filed [redacted]

1 - 100-5238 (Instant)

1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]

5 - NEW YORK (RM)

1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - 100- [redacted] (RUNK or RONK)  
1 - [redacted]

*Handwritten notes:* Dave Van Rook  
413  
*Initials*

WAH:rc  
(13)

*Handwritten:* 100-136446-82

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
AUG 12 1963  
FBI - NEW YORK

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
AUGUST 6 1963  
FBI - ST. LOUIS

*Handwritten:* [Signature]

St. Louis, Missouri  
July 16, 1963

On July 3, 1963, the St. Louis Branch of the SWP held its regular monthly meeting at the home of SOREN TOROIAN, 408 Christian Avenue, St. Louis 15, Missouri. Those also in attendance were

The meeting was begun by reading of the branch mail, which included a letter from MARVEL DOBBS congratulating DICK CLARKE for St. Louis submitting its full quota of the recent "Militant" fund drive. Also she expressed the feelings of her husband, FARRELL DOBBS, regarding a recent letter which CLARKE had submitted to National Headquarters, New York City. She also advised CLARKE that the National Office was cancelling out the St. Louis Branch's previous debt and that St. Louis could now start with a clean slate insofar as its sustaining fund dues were concerned.

Another letter was addressed to all branches and advised that the Political Committee was sternly warning all branches and party members not to engage in any possible controversy regarding the State Department's ban on travel to Cuba. The memorandum stated that the Political Committee did not agree with this State Department ban, nevertheless individual members or branches were not to be drawn into any conflict

regarding this matter, and that if anything were to be done, it would be done at the national level.

Another letter advised regarding the National Convention stating that branches must vote on the various convention issues by branches and that individual minority group branches would not be permitted to submit their own dissenting vote or dissenting delegates. In other words, each branch was to have its own vote on each subject matter and if a majority of the members of the branch were in agreement with the majority, then they could so vote at the National Convention. If the majority of the members of the branch were in agreement with the party's minority group, then the branch delegate could be so instructed to vote with the party minority.

Another letter was attached to two forms advising that all branches must submit the original of the forms which would list the delegates and the alternates and they would have to be a Branch Organizer, Chairman, Convention Chairman and Secretary. CLARKE asked then who was to be the branch delegate and VON ROMER thought that it would be best if CLARKE would serve as delegate. TOROIAN agreed and made a motion to that effect. TOROIAN was then listed as the alternate delegate to the convention. CLARKE signed the document as Branch Organizer while VON ROMER signed the document as Convention Chairman and TOROIAN signed as Secretary.

CLARKE said that he had been in recent contact with a singer who was making an appearance in St. Louis' Gaslight Square. His last name was RONK or RUNK. He was a young man from New York City who obviously represented the minority voice of the SWP as he was rather critical of FARRELL DOBBS. He seemed to feel that the SWP should do more insofar as infiltration of union organizations, etc. He asked CLARKE whether there was any youth movement here and CLARKE said there was not anything to discuss at this time and RONK told CLARKE that he might possibly suggest to New York that some youths be sent to St. Louis. CLARKE then mentioned that even MYRA TANNER WEISS had voiced some opposition to the party leadership and she too was insisting that more be done insofar as union infiltration and work at that level goes.

CLARKE gave TOROIAN an SWP Discussion Bulletin which rather clearly stated her opposition to the party majority.

There was some discussion of VERN SCHROEDER, who attended the previous SWP meeting at TOROIAN's home. CLARKE said that he once was a Norman Thomas Socialist and actually ran for office on the Socialist ticket. He said that SCHROEDER's wife was active as a Lutheran Sunday School teacher for Negro youths and was contemplating joining the NAACP or CORE. CLARKE reviewed SCHROEDER's past and thought that he would be a good

member to bring to future meetings, and then pointed out that the constitution of the SWP requires that a member must be voted on in absentia and he asked the other three members if it was agreeable to ask SCHROEDER to join the party and all seemed to agree that it would be all right. TOROIAN then suggested that it might be a good idea to bring him to the next meeting of the St. Louis Branch since then CLARKE and TOROIAN would return from New York City and could give a full report on the convention and this might prove rather interesting to SCHROEDER. TOROIAN volunteered to handle this responsibility. CLARKE said it would be best if they both submitted a report when they returned to St. Louis. It was agreed that the next meeting should be July 29, 1963 since the convention would be fresh in their mind. VON ROMER asked the question whether it would be advisable for TOROIAN to meet possibly an hour ahead of CLARKE's and SCHROEDER's arrival so that he might report to BANGERT and he regarding confidential information at the convention. This was agreed upon.

CLARKE said there was some discussion regarding previous CP activities here and the question turned to EUGENE TOURNIER, and CLARKE now seemed to feel that young TOURNIER, who is a teacher at Washington University, is definitely a working member of the St. Louis Branch of the CP and that he

works under their direct instruction.

Each member present contributed \$5.00 to the national sustaining fund.

HARRY VON ROMER reported that he is now working.

DICK CLARKE reports that he intends leaving St. Louis July 17th at approximately 11:00. TOROIAN said that he would probably leave later in the afternoon. He would meet him at the Empire Hotel, New York City, where the convention would be held. CLARKE said that he intended mingling with many of the delegates and that it was unnecessary for him and TOROIAN to sit together during the convention. He asked TOROIAN how often he spoke at previous conventions and TOROIAN said he only rose to speak once each time and TOROIAN advised CLARKE that he could speak as often as he pleased on the various questions as they arose.

New York, New York  
May 22, 1964

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Bufile 100-440146  
NYfile 100-136446

Re: David Ritz Van Ronk

David Ritz Van Ronk, also known as Dave Van Ronck, Dave Van Roncken, Dave Ritz, resides at 190 Waverly Place, New York, New York, and is employed as a free lance folk singer and guitar player from his residence. He has Social Security Number 104-28-2744.

Subject is described as a male caucasian, born on June 30, 1936 at Brooklyn, New York, 6'2", 200 pounds, heavy build, brown hair, blue eyes, light complexion and wears a beard and moustache.

Subject's Selective Service classification is 4-F. On June 18, 1958, subject was afforded a pre-induction physical examination and found to be unacceptable for military service. On subject's Medical History Form, which he submitted in connection with the above physical, he wrote, "I think I need psychiatric help". The conclusions of the examining physician were "Eyes - Hyperopia, History of Asthma. Appears very tense and jittery. Has many phobias and anxieties. Tremors of extended hands (severe), moist, clammy, hands. Speech halting and occasional stammering. Inadequacy. Psychoneurosis severe". Found unacceptable for military service for physical and mental (psychiatric) reasons.

Confidential sources, who have furnished reliable information in the past advised:

During 1958, subject was a member of the Young People's Socialist League (YPSL) and attended meetings and forums of this group from 1958 to 1959.

The YPSL is publicly known as the youth affiliate of the Socialist Party - Social Democratic Federation.

DISSEMINATED TO  
SECRET SERVICE  
ON JUN 8 1964

4-Bureau  
1-New York

JOHN J. HINCHCLIFFE: pam

(5)

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

100-136446-121

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

9c  
4/20

*posted*

REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 4/15/64	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/8-10/64
TITLE OF CASE 0 DAVID RITZ VAN RONK, aka		REPORT MADE BY MARTIN A. CROWE	TYPED BY gr
		CHARACTER OF CASE  SM-SWP	

REFERENCE:

Report of SA MARTIN A. CROWE, 4/16/63 at NY.

-C-

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source

File Number Where Located

NY T-1

NY T-2

APPROVED *JFM/kl* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

4- Bureau (100-440146) (RM)

3- New York (100-136446)

100-440146-9

EX-102

8 APR 16 1964

**COPIES DESTROYED**

**9 NOV. 17 1970**

*SUB CONTROL*

DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT

AGENCY	<i>RAC, 2150 94</i>		
REQUEST RECD.			
DATE FWD.	<i>4/23/64</i>		
HOW FWD.	<i>R/S</i>		
BY	<i>WHE/m</i>		

NOTATIONS	

**72 APR 24 1964**



NY 100-136446

Identity of Source

File Number Where Located

NY T-3

[Redacted]



100-133479-4310

NY T-4

[Redacted]



100-133479-4332

COVER PAGE  
B

NY 100-136446

1.  Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2.  The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3.  Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4.  A suitable photograph  is  is not available.
5.  Subject is employed in a key facility and \_\_\_\_\_ is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are \_\_\_\_\_.
6.  This report is classified CONFIDENTIAL because (state reason) data furnished by NY T-1 through NY T-4 could result in the identification of these informants of continuing value and impair their future effectiveness. Such impairment could have an adverse effect upon the defense interests of the country.
7.  Subject previously interviewed (dates) never.  
 Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) of his emotional instability and his employment as a folk singer, it is felt an interview of subject could possibly result in embarrassment to the Bureau.
8.  This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
9.  This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) of subject's membership in the SWP-NYL during September, 1963.
10.  Subject's SI card  is  is not tabbed Detcom.  
 Subject's activities  do  do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

COVER PAGE  
C\*



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
New York, New York  
April 16, 1963

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

NY file 100-136446

Title            David Ritz Van Ronk

Character       Security Matter - SWP

Reference       is made to the report of Special  
Agent Martin A. Crowe, dated and captioned as above, at  
New York.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities  
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable  
information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property  
of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside  
your agency.



NY 100-136446

Subject is being recommended for inclusion in the Security Index in view of his being accepted into membership of the SWP-NYL during November 1962 and his attendance at five meetings of the SWP-NYL between 11/62 and 2/63.

The above information was furnished by [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past.

*Also from 1956 to 1958 subject was very active and held leadership positions in Young Peoples Socialist League (YPSL)*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 3/11/63

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-136446) - P -

SUBJECT: DAVID RITZ VAN RONK aka  
Dave Van Ronck, Dave Van  
Roncken  
SM-SWP

FOIA(b)(6)

bpl "11"  
(1)

(OO:NY)

Subject is a white, male, American, born 6/30/36 at Brooklyn, NY. He resides at 190 Waverly Place, NYC, with his wife, TERRI SANDRA (nee THAL) VAN RONK, a white, female, American, born [redacted] at [redacted]

Subject is employed as a guitar player and folk singer at the Gaslight Cafe, 116 Macdougall St., NYC. MRS DAVID VAN RONK

[redacted] has advised that subject is currently a member of the SWP-NYL.

The NYO is currently preparing a summary report concerning subject. The above information is being furnished for indexing purposes at the Bureau.

Feb 17  
2

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

EW  
MCT-41

100-440146-1

REC-51

2 MAR 12 1963

2-Bureau (RM)  
1-New York (100-136446)

MAC:ml  
(3)

EX-112

SUB CONTROL

54  
50 MAR 20 1963

SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

2/15/63

SAC, NEW YORK (100-136446) (P)

DAVID RITZ VAN RONK aka  
Dave Van Ronck, Dave Van Roncken  
SM - SWP

(OO: NEW YORK)

Subject is a white male American, born 6/30/36, at Brooklyn, NY, and currently resides at 190 Waverly Place, NYC. He is currently employed as a guitar player and folk singer at the Gaslight Cafe, 116 MacDougal St., NYC.

Investigation is currently being conducted by the NYO to determine subject's suitability on the SI.

Subject has made several record albums. The cover of one of the albums reflects that subject had in the past been a merchant seaman.

LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD

At Washington, D. C.

1. Will, at US Coast Guard Headquarters, review merchant seamen personnel records in an effort to ascertain additional background information re subject.

2 - Washington Field (RM)  
1 - New York (100-136446)

MAC:kpm  
(3)

Chief Clerk  
Post

TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD



ADDRESS REPLY TO:  
COMMANDANT  
U.S. COAST GUARD  
HEADQUARTERS  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OIN  
Ser: 0112  
11 July 1963

EX-P. PROC.  
32 JUL 15 1963  
32

*of file sec*  
11/14

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention Liaison Section

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The below named Subject is a holder of a U. S. Merchant Mariner's Document issued pursuant to Executive Order 10173, as amended, and Parts 6 and 121, Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations. As files of your Bureau reflect information which may indicate the desirability of denying Subject a document through the hearing procedures of 33 CFR 121.19, it is requested that the Coast Guard be advised, if possible, of the identity of the informants referenced in the enclosure hereto, and further, if your Bureau would interpose an objection to the Coast Guard interviewing any identified informant.

SUBJECT: VAN RONK, David Ritz  
D&POB: 6/30/36, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
FBI NO. 100-136446

Sincerely yours,

*[Signature]*  
W. J. LYNCH  
LCDR, U. S. Coast Guard  
Acting Chief, Intelligence Division  
By direction of the Commandant

Encl: (1) Availabilities  
(2 copies)

ENCLOSURE

Info Coast Guard  
2 - Chicago  
2 - New York  
5 - [unclear]  
7-22-63

REC-22 100-449146-5  
EX-112  
10 JUL 15 1963  
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
REGRADEING: 500 DIR 5200.10  
DOES NOT APPLY  
*[Signature]*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~