

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **WASHINGTON, D. C.**

FILE NO. **101-14**

REPORT MADE AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	DATE WHEN MADE 3-12-42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3-3, 4, 9, 10-42	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> b7C
TITLE ALLAN LOMAX, Assistant in Charge American Folk Song Music Division, Library of Congress.			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY HATCH ACT.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

LOMAX a student at the University of Texas, Austin, intermittently from 1930 to graduation on June 8, 1936. His father, JOHN A. LOMAX, was formerly an official at the University of Texas, and his step-mother was at one time dean of women. Married ELIZABETH HEROLD GOODMAN, the sister of a known Communist in Houston, Texas, who also was a former student at the University. No information developed that LOMAX was a member of the Communist Party at the University of Texas, but his father on numerous occasions advised informants that LOMAX had been a member of the Communist Party at Harvard University.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-23-83 BY SP4 bja/pml

*cc [unclear]
S- [unclear]
[unclear]*

DETAILS: AT AUSTIN, TEXAS

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This is a joint report of Special Agent and the writer.

In accordance with a request from the Washington Field Division, inquiry was made at the University of Texas where it was determined from the Registrar's Office that LOMAX was born January 31, 1915 at Austin, Texas, and entered the University on September 19, 1930, and dropped out in June, 1931. He thereafter attended Harvard University during 1931 and 1932 and returned to the University of Texas from 1932 to 1933. He completed his work at the University during the school year 1935 and 1936 and graduated on June 8, 1936, with a B.A.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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5 - Bureau 3 - Washington Field 2 - San Antonio		6-23-42	

degree with highest honors. He averaged A during his school work and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa fraternity.

Inquiry of the Ex-Students Association at the University revealed that the father of LOMAX, JOHN A. LOMAX, who graduated from the University in 1906, had been the former Registrar and Department head at the University, from which position he resigned in 1924 to take a position with the Republic Trust Company in Dallas, Texas. He was listed as the present head of the American Folk Song Music Division of the Library of Congress, of which his son was assistant in charge. It was shown that his step-mother, RUBY TERRILL, was the former dean of women at the University and that his niece, KATHLEEN LOMAX BLAND, was now the present assistant dean of women. It was learned from LOLA JONES, of the Ex-Students Association, that LOMAX came from an extremely fine family but that little was known of his present activities.

The files of the Ex-Students Association contained an article from THE ALCAIDE, The University of Texas Alumni Magazine, of November, 1941, which revealed that LOMAX was the son of JOHN A. LOMAX, who graduated from the University in 1906 and BESS BROWN LOMAX, who graduated from the University in 1904. He attended Terrill Preparatory School, Dallas, Texas, and the Choate School at Wallingford, Connecticut, and had a year at Harvard University. In 1933 he went on a recording trip with his father to the Brazos bottoms of Texas, which trip was financed by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation, the results of the trip being deposited in the archives of American Folk Songs in the Library of Congress, of which JOHN A. LOMAX was curator. From 1933 to 1935 JOHN A. LOMAX and his son prepared and published "AMERICAN BALLADS AND FOLK SONGS" and "NEGRO FOLK SONGS AS SUNG BY LEAD BELLY".

After LOMAX's graduation in 1936, he spent several months in Mexico, and then became assistant to his father in the Library of Congress. Later, he and his wife, the former ELIZABETH HEROLD went to Haiti where they recorded native folksongs and voodoo dance rituals. Upon his return to the United States, LOMAX edited a new edition called "COWBOY SONGS AND OTHER FRONTIER BALLADS". In June, 1937, he was named assistant in charge of the archives of American folksongs.

The records of the Ex-Students Association revealed that LOMAX's wife was Mrs. ELIZABETH HEROLD GOODMAN prior to her marriage to LOMAX. She attended the University of Texas from 1935 to 1937 and was the daughter of MICHAEL HEROLD of Dallas, Texas. She was born [redacted] at Blanco, Texas, and is the sister of SERGIE ANN and MICHAEL HEROLD. b7C

It should be noted that the files of the San Antonio office reveal that [redacted] [redacted] a known Communist at Austin, Texas, and had been seen by agents of the Houston office on a number of occasions in the company of HOMER BROOKS, Secretary of the Communist Party of Texas.

[Redacted]

The files of the Ex-Students Association also revealed that JOHN A. LOMAX was born in Goodman, Mississippi, and graduated from the University of Texas. As set forth therein, he had five children, JOHN A. LOMAX, Jr., SHIRLEY, ALLAN, and BESS BROWN. He married his second wife in 1934, she being RUBY TERRILL, former dean of women at the University. He was registrar at the University of Texas from 1896 to 1904 and secretary of the Ex-Students Association from 1910 to 1924.

[Redacted] advised that he knew of no Communistic tendencies on the part of LOMAX but felt that he had progressed toward those leanings as he was not a conventional thinker, was truly an individualist, and refused to accept conventional ideas. Although questioned as to his Communistic tendencies by [Redacted] he refused to say that he was a member of the party but inferred that he probably was connected with the organization. He was a great believer in independent thought, and [Redacted] recalled on one occasion that he came to his office to protest against white boys kicking a negro, indicating to [Redacted] that he was a friend of the downtrodden and the masses.

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[Redacted] School of Arts & Sciences, informed that LOMAX was a victim of too much adulation by his father and being very intellectual, was extreme in his views and dealt in theory rather than actuality. However, [Redacted] could furnish no information indicating any connection with the Communist Party on LOMAX's part.

[Redacted] informed that LOMAX was an extreme liberal in his political views. LOMAX's father told [Redacted] that his son was a member of the Communist party at Harvard University and for that reason he had forced him to withdraw from the school because he had learned that his son was intending to marry a girl whom he understood was a member of the Communist party. [Redacted] also stated that LOMAX belonged to no organizations while he was at the University and as far as he knew, he was not a member of the Communist party while at the school, at least to [Redacted]'s knowledge. He also informed that he had a very odd personality and for that reason was not popular with the student body.

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[redacted] informed that he was well acquainted with LOMAX and although he knew that he was a liberal thinker and was something of an odd personality because of the political theories that he advanced, he had no information that LOMAX was a member of the Communist Party at the University nor did [redacted] know that such an organization was in existence at the University at that time. [redacted]

Special Agent [redacted] learned from Confidential Source [redacted] that he had known the LOMAX family all of his life and was a close personal friend to JOHN A. LOMAX. He stated that he was in close contact with ALLAN LOMAX when he was a student at the University of Texas, and that on a number of occasions, his father advised him that he was worried about ALLAN inasmuch as he was associating with students who were endeavoring to organize a Communist unit at the University. However, the identity of these students was never ascertained by the informant. He also learned from LOMAX's father that LOMAX kept company with a Jewish girl from New York City who was a member of the Communistic clique at the University. He further informed that it has been a year or two since LOMAX's father has last discussed his connection with the Communist party but that LOMAX was first, last and always, of the artist type, and was erratic, emotional and literary in all respects. He further stated that JOHN A. LOMAX was a fine, substantial American citizen, and that all members of his family with the exception of ALLAN LOMAX were loyal to our present government. He further informed that ALLAN LOMAX had made his father so angry on numerous occasions that he had walked out of his home and that repeatedly the father and son had had arguments about the relative merits of Communism as contrasted to Americanism. He further pointed out that JOHN A. LOMAX was strictly a Republican and was a solid, substantial, loyal American citizen.

The writer made inquiry of [redacted] neighbor of the LOMAX family at 402 E. 34th Street at the time they resided at Austin, Texas. However, [redacted] stated that he had never seen ALLAN LOMAX and that there had never been any indication in his conversations with the father that the son was in any manner connected with the Communist party.

Inquiry of the Retail Merchants Credit Association, Austin, revealed no credit record on file for ALLAN LOMAX. Like inquiry was made of the Austin Police Department with negative results.

The writer also made inquiry of [redacted] local representative of the HIES COMMITTEE at Austin, Texas, who informed that the name LOMAX had not entered the investigation of Communist activities conducted by the organization at Austin, Texas, in July, 1940.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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✓ INFORMANTS

Source of Information

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RE: ALLAN LOMAX,
Assistant in Charge,
American Folk Song Music Division,
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY-HATCH ACT

Report of
dated March 12, 1942
at San Antonio, Texas

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1-23-53 SP4 bjg/PANU

DETAILS: AT AUSTIN, TEXAS

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This is a joint report of Special Agent and the writer.

In accordance with a request from the Washington Field Division, inquiry was made at the University of Texas where it was determined from the Registrar's Office that LOMAX was born January 31, 1915 at Austin, Texas, and entered the University on September 19, 1930, and dropped out in June, 1931. He thereafter attended Harvard University during 1931 and 1932 and returned to the University of Texas from 1932 to 1933. He completed his work at the University during the school year 1935 and 1936 and graduated on June 8, 1936, with a B. A.

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[Handwritten notes and signatures]

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Inquiry of the Ex-Students Association at the University revealed that the father of LOMAX, JOHN A LOMAX, who graduated from the University in 1906, had been the former Registrar and Department head at the University, from which position he resigned in 1924 to take a position with the Republic Trust Company in Dallas, Texas. He was listed as the present head of the American Folk Song Music Division of the Library of Congress, of which his son was assistant in charge. It was shown that his step-mother, RUBY TERRILL, was the former dean of women at the University and that his niece, KATHLEEN LOMAX BLAND, was now the present assistant dean of women. It was learned from LOLA JONES, of the EX-Students Association, that LOMAX came from an extremely fine family but that little was known of his present activities.

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A confidential source known to the San Antonio Field Office advised that [redacted] a known Communist at Austin, Texas, and was reported to have been seen in the company of Homer Brooks, Secretary of the Communist Party of Texas.

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Confidential Source [] an official of the University of Texas, advised that he knew of no Communistic tendencies on the part of LOMAX but felt that he had progressed toward these leanings as he was not a conventional thinker, was truly an individualist, and refused to accept conventional ideas. Although questioned as to his Communistic tendencies by Informant [] he refused to say that he was a member of the party but inferred that he probably was connected with the organization. He was a great believer in independent thought, and Informant [] recalled on one occasion that he came to his office to protest against white boys kicking a negro, indicating to Informant [] that he was a friend of the downtrodden and the masses.

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INFORMANTS

Source of Information	[redacted]	[redacted] b2
		[redacted]
		University of Texas, Austin.
" " "	[redacted]	University of Texas, Austin.
" " "	[redacted]	University of Texas, Austin.
" " "	[redacted]	University of Texas, Austin.

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