The public records, files and publications of the Committee on Un-American Activities reveal the following information concerning the individual and organization listed in the subject above:

Dorothy Kenyon

A leaflet of the Citizens' Rally which was held in New York City on April 13, 1940, under the auspices of the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom, contained the name of Dorothy Kenyon in a list of sponsors of the rally. She signed a petition sponsored by the same committee, as shown on a mimeographed sheet attached to a letterhead of the organization dated January 17, 1940.

The Special Committee on Un-American Activities cited the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom as a Communist-front organization (reports of June 25, 1942 and March 29, 1944).

The Communist "Daily Worker" of November 23, 1939 (page 3), named Dorothy Kenyon as one of those who signed a letter opposing alien registration, which letter was released by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, cited as "one of the oldest auxiliaries of the Communist Party in the United States" (Report 1311 released by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities on March 29, 1944). Attorney General Tom Clark cited the American Committee as subversive and Communist in letters furnished the Loyalty Review Board and released to the press by the U. S. Civil Service Commission June 1 and September 21, 1948.

Judge Dorothy Kenyon was one of those who sent greetings to the Soviet Women, under the auspices of the American Council on Soviet Relations, as shown in the pamphlet, "Soviet Women to the Women of the World" (page 29). Attorney General Clark cited the American Council as the subversive and Communist successor to the Friends of the Soviet Union (press releases of June 1 and September 21, 1948). Attorney General Francis Biddle cited the American Council as a Communist-front organization (Congressional Record, September 24, 1942, page 7688). The Special Committee . . . cited the American Council as a Communist-front organization (Report 1311 of March 29, 1944).

A handbill entitled, "Protest Brutal Nazi Persecutions!" carried the name of Dorothy Kenyon as one of the sponsors of a Mass Rally held by the American Labor Party. "For years, the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture the entire American Labor Party throughout New York State. They succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the American Labor Party but outside of New York City, they have been unable to win control" (from Report 1311 of the Special Committee . . .).
Dorothy Kenyon was one of the sponsors of a Salute to Young America Dinner, held on the First Anniversary of the American Youth for Democracy, as shown by the program of the dinner which was held October 16, 1944. Attorney General Clark cited the American Youth for Democracy as subversive and Communist (press releases of December 4, 1947 and September 21, 1948); the Special Committee on Un-American Activities cited the organization as the new name under which the Young Communist League operates and which also largely absorbed the American Youth Congress (Report 1311 of March 29, 1944); the Committee on Un-American Activities, in a report released April 17, 1947, cited the American Youth for Democracy as a front formed in October 1943 to succeed the Young Communist League and for the purpose of exploiting to the advantage of a foreign power, the idealism, inexperience, and craving to join which is characteristic of American college youth. Its "high-sounding slogans" cover a "determined effort to disaffect our youth and to turn them against religion, the American home, against the college authorities, and against the American Government itself."

An announcement of a forum to be conducted by the New York City Council of the American Youth Congress named Dorothy Kenyon as one of the speakers. Attorney General Clark cited the American Youth Congress as subversive and Communist (press releases of December 4, 1947 and September 21, 1948); Attorney General Biddle cited the organization as having originated in 1934 and having been "controlled by Communists and manipulated by them to influence the thought of American youth" (Congressional Record, September 21, 1942, page 7685; also cited in re Harry Bridges, May 28, 1942, page 10). The Special Committee ... cited the American Youth Congress as "one of the principal fronts of the Communist Party" and "prominently identified with the White House picket line ... under the immediate auspices of the American Peace Mobilization" (report of June 25, 1942, page 16).

A letterhead of the Conference on Pan American Democracy, dated November 16, 1938, contained the name of Dorothy Kenyon in a list of sponsors of that Conference, cited as subversive and Communist by Attorney General Clark (press releases of June 1 and September 21, 1948); in its report of March 29, 1944, the Special Committee ... cited the Conference as a Communist front which defended Carlos Luiz Prestes, a Brazilian Communist leader and former member of the executive committee of the Communist International.

A pamphlet entitled, "The People vs. H. C. L." (page 2), named Miss Kenyon as a sponsor of the Consumers National Federation; the pamphlet was dated December 11-12, 1937. The Special Committee cited the Consumers' National Federation as a Communist-front organization (report of March 29, 1944).

Dorothy Kenyon was named as a "representative individual" who advocated lifting the arms embargo against Republican Spain in a booklet entitled "These Americans Say: 'Lift the Embargo Against Republican Spain'" (page 8), prepared and published by the Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo. The Special Committee cited the Coordinating Committee as one of a number of front organizations set up during the Spanish Civil War by the Communist Party in the United States and through which the party carried on a great deal of agitation (Report 1311 of March 29, 1944).
A pamphlet of the Descendants of the American Revolution (back cover), carried the name of Dorothy Kenyon in a list of members of the organization's Advisory Board. The Special Committee cited the Descendants of the American Revolution as "a Communist-front organization set up as a radical imitation of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The Descendants have uniformly adhered to the line of the Communist Party ... The educational director ... is one Howard Selsam, an instructor at the Communist Party's Workers School in New York." (From Report of June 25, 1942).

Dorothy Kenyon was a member of the Advisory Board of Film Audiences for Democracy, as shown by "Film Survey" for June 1939 (page 4); she was a member of the Advisory Board of Films for Democracy, according to the April 1939 issue of "Films for Democracy" (page 2). The Special Committee cited both these organizations as Communist-front groups (Report of March 29, 1941).

The program of the Greater New York Emergency Conference on Inalienable Rights, February 12, 1940, named Miss Kenyon as a sponsor of that group, cited as a Communist front which was succeeded by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties (Report 1311 of March 29, 1941); the Committee on Un-American Activities, in a report dated September 2, 1941, cited the Greater New York Emergency Conference on Inalienable Rights as among a "maze of organizations" which were "spawned for the alleged purpose of defending civil liberties in general but actually intended to protect Communist subversion from any penalties under the law."

The "Daily Worker" of September 17, 1940 (pages 1 and 5), revealed that Dorothy Kenyon was one of those who signed a telegram to President Roosevelt and Attorney General Jackson, requesting the Department of Justice to reconsider denial of bail to officers of the International Fur and Leather Workers, and to request the court to release the imprisoned defendants on bail until their appeal was determined.

The Special Committee ... found "Communist leadership entrenched" in the International Fur and Leather Workers Union (from Report No. 1476 dated January 3, 1940); the union was again cited by the Special Committee in its report of March 29, 1941, as follows: "... the Communist Party's control of the International Fur ... has continued down to the present time and was never more complete than it is today." The Washington "Post" of August 30, 1950 (page 3), reported that the Fur and Leather Workers Union was expelled by the Congress of Industrial Organizations for "hewing too close to the Communist Party Line."

Miss Kenyon sent greetings to the National Conference of the International Labor Defense, as shown by the Proceedings and Report of that conference (page 31), and by "Equal Justice" for July 1939 (page 4). Attorney General Tom Clark cited the International Labor Defense as subversive and Communist in letters to the Loyalty Review Board (press releases of June 1 and September 21, 1948); Attorney General Biddle cited the International Labor Defense as the "legal arm of the Communist Party" (Congressional Record, September 21, 1942, page 7686). The Committee on Un-American Activities, in a report dated September 2, 1941, cited the International Labor Defense as "part of an international network of organizations for the defense of Communist lawbreakers." At a conference in Detroit, April 27-28, 1946, the International Labor Defense and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties merged to form the Civil Rights Congress.
Dorothy Kenyon was a member of the Lawyers Committee on American Relations with Spain, as shown by the back cover of the "Prospectus and Review" of that organization. The Special Committee cited the Lawyers Committee as a Communist-front group in its report of March 29, 1944.

Letterheads of the League of Women Shoppers, dated October 7, 1935 and January 25, 1940, and an undated letterhead of the same organization, named Dorothy Kenyon as a sponsor of that group, cited as "an organization which this committee found to be a Communist-controlled front by indisputable documentary evidence obtained from the files of the Communist Party in Philadelphia" (Special Committee in Report 1311 of March 29, 1944).

Miss Kenyon was a sponsor of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc., as shown by a letterhead of the organization dated March 13, 1946, a memorandum issued by the Council dated March 18, 1946, a letterhead of March 1, 1948, a "Call" to the Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, November 6-8, 1943, and a "Call" to the Conference on Women of the USA and the USSR in the Post-War World, November 18, 1944, in New York City, which named her as a sponsor and a member of the Committee of Women of the organization.

Attorney General Clark cited the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship as subversive and Communist (press releases of December 1, 1947 and September 21, 1948); the Special Committee cited the National Council as having been, "in recent months, the Communist Party's principal front for all things Russian" (Report 1311 of March 29, 1944).

The "Daily Worker" of March 18, 1945 (page 2), listed Dorothy Kenyon as one of those who signed a statement sponsored by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, hailing the War Department order on commissions for the Communists. Attorney General Clark cited the National Federation as subversive and Communist (press releases of December 1, 1947 and September 21, 1948); Attorney General Biddle cited the National Federation as "part of what Lenin called the solar system of organizations, ostensibly having no connection with the Communist Party, by which Communists attempt to create sympathizers and supporters of their program" (Congressional Record, September 24, 1942, page 7687). The Special Committee... cited the National Federation as "one of the viciously subversive organizations of the Communist Party" (Report of March 29, 1944).

A letterhead of the National Lawyers Guild, dated May 28, 1940, named Dorothy Kenyon as Vice President of that organization. The Committee on Un-American Activities released a report on the National Lawyers Guild, September 21, 1950, in which it cited the Guild as "the foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party, its front organizations, and controlled unions."

Dorothy Kenyon signed an Open Letter to Governor Thomas E. Dewey, asking for pardon for Morris U. Schappes; the letter was prepared by the Schappes Defense Committee (New York "Times" of October 9, 1944, page 12). Attorney General Clark cited the Schappes Defense Committee as a Communist organization (press release of April 27, 1949); the Special Committee cited the group as "a front organization with a strictly Communist objective, namely, the defense of a self-admitted Communist who was convicted of perjury in the courts of New York" (Report of March 29, 1944).
An undated letterhead of the New York Tom Mooney Committee named Miss Kenyon as a sponsor of that organization, cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in its report of March 29, 1944.

The "Daily Worker" of February 21, 1940 reported that Dorothy Kenyon had signed a letter to President Roosevelt and Attorney General Jackson, protesting attacks upon the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. Attorney General Clark cited the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade as subversive and Communist (press releases of December 1, 1947 and September 21, 1948); the Special Committee on Un-American Activities cited the organization as a Communist front (Report of March 29, 1944).

References to Miss Kenyon appeared in the Congressional Record of March 8, 1950 (pages 3053 and 3054); and March 20, 1950 (page A2176).

American Civil Liberties Union

In Report No. 2 of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, dated January 3, 1939, a chapter was devoted to the American Civil Liberties Union. We find the following excerpt concerning it which was taken from a report of the United Mine Workers, filed in 1921:

"There are 200 organizations in the United States actively engaged in or sympathetic with the Communist revolutionary movement as directed and conducted by the Communist Party in America... In virtually every instance, these organizations have direct contact, through the mechanism of interlocking directorates, with the central executive committee of the Communist Party of America, or with its "legal" branch, the Workers Party of America.

"Illustrative of this arrangement is the executive committee and the national committee of the American Civil Liberties Union, at New York, posing as the champion of free speech and civil liberties, but serving as a forerunner and trail blazer for the active and insidious activities of the Communists... Harry F. Ward... is Chairman of this organization. The managing director is Roger Baldwin who served a term as a draft evader in the Essex County jail in New Jersey in 1918 and 1919" (Report No. 2, pp. 82-83).

In Report No. 2290, the Special Committee to Investigate Communist Activities in the United States stated the following:

"The American Civil Liberties Union is closely affiliated with the Communist movement in the United States, and fully 90 per cent of its efforts are on behalf of communists who have come into conflict with the law. It claims to stand for free speech, free press, and free assembly; but it is quite apparent that the main function of the A. C. L. U. is to attempt to protect the communists in their advocacy of force and violence to overthrow the Government, replacing the American flag by a red flag and erecting a Soviet Government in place of the republican form of government guaranteed to each State by the Federal Constitution."
Roger N. Baldwin, its guiding spirit, makes no attempt to hide his friendship for the communists and their principles. He was formerly a member of the I.W.W. and served a term in prison as a draft dodger during the war. This is the same Roger N. Baldwin that has recently issued a statement that in the next session of Congress our job is to organize the opposition to the recommendations of the congressional committee investigating communism. In his testimony before the committee he admitted having said at a dinner held in Chicago that 'The Fish Committee recommendations will be buried in the Senate.' Testifying on force and violence, murder, etc., the following is quoted:

"The Chairman: Does your organization uphold the right of a citizen or alien — it does not make any difference which — to advocate murder?

"Mr. Baldwin: Yes.

"The Chairman: Or assassination?

"Mr. Baldwin: Yes.

"The Chairman: Does your organization uphold the right of an American citizen to advocate force and violence for the overthrow of the Government?

"Mr. Baldwin: Certainly; in so far as mere advocacy is concerned.

"The Chairman: Does it uphold the right of an alien in this country to urge the overthrow and advocate the overthrow of the Government by force and violence?

"Mr. Baldwin: Precisely on the same basis as any citizen.

"The Chairman: You do uphold the right of an alien to advocate the overthrow of the Government by force and violence?

"Mr. Baldwin: Sure; certainly. It is the healthiest kind of thing for a country, of course, to have free speech — unlimited.

The American Civil Liberties Union has received large sums from the Garland Fund, of which Roger N. Baldwin is one of the directors. During the trial of the communists at Gastonia, not for freedom of speech, of the press, or assembly, but for a conspiracy to kill the chief of police, of which seven defendants were convicted, the A. C. L. U. provided bail for five of the defendants, amounting to $28,500, which is secured from the Garland fund. All of the defendants convicted jumped their bail and are reported to be in Russia. The $28,500 bail was forfeited, including $9,000 more advanced by the International Labor Defense.
"A committee of the New York State Legislature, back in 1928, reached the following conclusion in regard to the American Civil Liberties Union: The American Civil Liberties Union, in the last analysis, is a supporter of all subversive movements; its propaganda is detrimental to the interests of the State. It attempts not only to protect crime but to encourage attacks upon our institutions in every form.

"Your committee concurs with the above findings."


In Report No. 2 of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, dated January 3, 1939, a chapter was devoted to the American Civil Liberties Union. It is stated in this report that "the Committee heard testimony with reference to the Civil Liberties Union. Some witnesses listed the organization as Communist, while other witnesses denied that it was Communist. We received in evidence a number of official pamphlets distributed by the Civil Liberties Union . . . From the evidence before us, we are not in a position to definitely state whether or not this organization can properly be classed as a Communist organization . . ." (page 82).

A pamphlet published by the American Civil Liberties Union, 170 Fifth Avenue, New York City, in June 1947, reveals the position taken by that organization on certain issues as follows:

"Proposals have frequently been made to ban the Communist Party from the ballot. . . . Neither democratic principles nor practical expediency can justify these proposals. They are clearly unconstitutional . . . To outlaw the Communist Party or to bar its members from public office would therefore be to substitute totalitarian practices for democratic principles . . .

"The ACLU therefore opposes any efforts to bar the American Youth for Democracy or any other student organization from the campus where these principles are violated . . ."

The American Youth for Democracy was the subject of a report by the Committee on Un-American Activities, April 17, 1947, in which it was found that "the Communist Party, the Young Communist League, and the AYD have never on a single occasion deviated from the main line of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, despite their professions of loyalty to our founding fathers. AYD's complete adherence to the line of the Communists remains the acid test of the foreign loyalty which dominates all of its activities." American Youth for Democracy has been cited as a Communist-front organization by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in Report No. 1311 of March 29, 1947. The organization was cited as subversive and Communist by Attorney General Tom Clark in lists furnished the Loyalty Review Board, released to the press by the U. S. Civil Service Commission, December 4, 1947 and September 21, 1948.

The Communist publication, the "Daily Worker" of December 29, 1947 (page 4), carried the following statement: "The American Civil Liberties Union announced yesterday that it is supporting the appeal of Leon Josephson, Communist attorney who was sentenced to one year in prison for refusing to testify before a Congressional Committee."
It was reported in the "Daily Worker" of June 12, 1950 (page 2), in an article entitled "Civil Liberties Union files Appeal for eleven Communists" that the organization had filed a brief in behalf of the eleven before the U. S. Circuit Court of appeals. This same information was given in the "Daily People's World" of June 14, 1950 (page 2). According to the latter source, "The Civil Liberties Union pointed out to the court it 'has no political connection of any kind whatsoever' and that it is 'unalterably opposed to communism.'" The eleven Communists were convicted in Federal court on October 14, 1949, on charges of conspiring to "teach and advocate the overthrow or destruction of the Government of the United States by force and violence." (See Annual Report of the Committee on Un-American Activities for the Year 1949, page 16).

The Committee's Report on the Civil Rights Congress as a Communist-front organization, dated November 17, 1947, contains the following references to the American Civil Liberties Union:

"The incendiary character of the Civil Rights Congress propaganda is forcefully demonstrated by the contrast with the latest estimate made by the American Civil Liberties Union for the period ending July 1946. It must be remembered, in this connection, that the ACLU has gone so far in its preoccupation with civil liberties as to defend both Communists and Fascists, sometimes with an almost complete disregard for considerations of national security involved . . . ."

It is noted that on February 10, 1948, Arthur Garfield Hays, General Counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, testified before the sub-committee on Legislation of the Committee on Un-American Activities in opposition to anti-Communist legislation. (See Hearings on Legislation to Curb or Control the Communist Party of the United States, February 10, 1948, pages 208-210). In connection with his testimony, a newspaper article from the New York "Times" of February 6, 1948, was inserted in the record. According to this article, the "American Civil Liberties Union voted yesterday to bar henceforth from office or committee membership within the organization either Communists, supporters of Fascist regimes, or avowed sympathizers of any of the 'native organizations with obvious antidemocratic objectives or practices.'" (Ibid., page 226).

The following excerpt is taken from "City Lawyer" by Arthur Garfield Hays (published in 1942):

"For years the American Civil Liberties Union, objecting to discrimination because of opinion or association, had found no difficulty with the few Communists and fellow travelers on its board of directors. But in 1940 the 'Communist' virus bit us. Dr. Harry F. Ward of the Union Theological Seminary had for long been our national chairman. No one could or would question his devoted and able leadership. But he had also accepted the chairmanship of the League for Peace and Democracy, originally the League Against War and Fascism. The League followed the Communist party line very closely and this even after the Russian-German pact. It was not surprising that the League was designated as a Communist front by Martin Dies. The year before, Dr. Ward had wanted to resign as our chairman, but we had persuaded him to continue. In view of the new developments, we felt that in order to avoid a misunderstanding of what the Union stood for, it would be advisable to make a change. But Dr. Ward, who had wanted..."
to resign when no one wanted him to resign, now felt that a personal issue was involved.

"Not only this, but Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, a former IWW and later a member of the Communist party and influential in its councils, had been a member of our board for a long time. No one among us had fought more consistently and strenuously for the right of free speech over the years.

"More important than all of this, however, was the fact that the board found difficulty in functioning. Almost every question involving civil liberties would lead to endless discussion. There were many who would make a distinction between the right of free speech of employer and employee, between the rights of Henry Ford and the CIO. There were some who regarded free speech as merely a means toward a better social or economic end as against others of us who felt that the right of self-expression is an end in itself, as important to a civilized human being as the food he eats, the water he drinks, or the air he breathes. The Union had never insisted upon conformity to any particular conception of free speech. But now the question - not so much of what we should do but of what we believed - was raised continually. There was constant controversy. Margaret DeSilver (whose husband, Albert, was one of the founders of the Union) had for years been one of our stanchest supporters and was a member of the board. She resigned. A slim majority passed a resolution that the Union held it inappropriate for anyone to sit on the board who approved of any kind of totalitarianism, Fascist, Nazi, or Communist. No one resigned but the resolution itself caused further differences. A tense atmosphere overhung our weekly meetings; tempers were short, the air of friendliness and unity was gone. Miss Flynn, no doubt much provoked, wrote letters to the newspapers in which she derided the sincerity and integrity of the rest of us and frankly suggested that we had surrendered to the 'interests,' or at least to our richer contributors. Charges brought against her were sustained and she was expelled as a director. Ward resigned and John Haynes Holmes became our national chairman. Fortunately, his pacifist position in this war has raised no issue.

"When we now insist that there be no discrimination against people because of opinion, the finger is pointed at us. Our answer is that we had trouble functioning because of obstructive tactics and internal dissension and that as a group having the avowed purpose of maintaining civil rights, we could not permit our policies to be influenced by persons having other purposes."

(pages 229, 230)

"Liberty's National Emergency," the annual report of the American Civil Liberties Union, issued in June, 1941, reported in part, as follows:

"One issue arose at the 1941 election, growing out of the resolution adopted in 1940 disqualifying for membership on the Board, National Committee or staff of persons with connections
or views held to be contrary to the principles of civil liberty. Certain persons had been elected in 1940 on condition that they subscribed to the principle of the resolution. This condition was later held by counsel to be void, and the question then arose as to whether the election was valid. An arbitrator, Prof. Karl N. Llewellyn of the Columbia University Law School, was agreed upon, who determined that there was a valid election and that all persons then elected held office for three year terms." (pages 58, 59)