

The "DW" for 2-17-44 carried an article headed "Anti-Soviet Town Hall Rally Flops, Crackdown Should Follow." The article stated that Morris Ernst, attorney of the ACLU and state vice-president of the American Labor Party, was one of the speakers at the rally of the Social Democratic Federation held at the Town Hall, NYC, on the previous Tuesday night.

61-5124-A "DW" 2-17-44
(4)

According to instructions, the NY Field Office contacted Morris Ernst at his office in early March, 1944 and was advised the Bureau had received no inquiry about Werner Michel (subject of 100-288545). He was further advised the Bureau had an anonymous communication saying Michel had a criminal record but no investigation was conducted. Ernst then asked if the Bureau would furnish such information to INS which he was told was not possible, but such information would be available to INS at their request.

Ernst then asked Bureau Agent to meet Mr. Michel and in Agent's presence gave Michel advice regarding his (Michel) INS case.

For further information of the Bureau, the "Connie" referred to in the original phone call was probably Mr. Ernst's daughter who was in London working under Michel's direction for the OWI. (Not explained.)

100-288545-2 p.1,2
(33)
SI 100-288545-1
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The following references pertain to a letter Morris L. Ernst wrote to the Bureau on 3-1-44 regarding Werner Michel, a friend of Ernst's, and an employee of OWI, who had a citizenship hearing on 12-28-43 at US District Court, NYC. Ernst stated there must have been some confusion between Michel and somebody else of the same name because the record, presumably of the FBI, indicated Michel, had a criminal record abroad. Ernst inquired if the Bureau could clarify the matter.

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