

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEWARK

## CONFIDENTIAL

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEWARK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>APR 21 1953</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/20,27;3/22; 1/6,7/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>Changed: BEN SHAHN, Wa. Ben Shan</b>		ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.	CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

### SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject advised that he had never been a member of the C. P. but felt that he may belong to 7 or 8 organizations that have been cited by the Attorney General of the U. S. SHAHN stated that he was interested in peace and would offer his assistance to any group that he thought was working for a good cause. Class. & Ext. By **SP10SK/10W** WAGENCY 1cc-CSD

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
ADD. DISSEMINATION.

Reason - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
Date of Review **3/4/92** BY **3/4/89**

### DETAILS:

The title of this report is being changed to include the name **BEN SHAN** as the subject advised the writer and SA **[REDACTED]** on 2/27/53 that **SHAN** was his true name. Subject stated that one of his teachers in elementary school added the second H to the name making it **SHAHN** because he insisted that it be pronounced as such. Subject stated that he has continued to spell his name that way.

Mr. SHAHN stated he had never been a member of the C. P. but felt that he may belong to 7 or 8 organizations that have been cited by the Attorney General of the U. S. Mr. SHAHN said that he was interested in peace and would offer his assistance to any group that he thought was working for a good cause.

The Communist Party, USA has been cited by the Attorney General of the U. S. as a subversive organization which seeks to alter the form of government of the U.S. by un-Constitutional means.

AGENCY cc **OC/14**  
REQ. REC'D **2-17-53**  
REP'T FORW. **2-17-53**  
BY **[Signature]**

AGENCY **[Signature]**  
REQ. REC'D **5-11-56**  
REP'T FORW. **5-25-56**  
BY **[Signature]**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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MAY 15 1953

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NK 100-311959

*N.J.* Ben SHAHN stated he was naturalized through the naturalization of his parents, HISSEL SHAN and GITTEL LIBERMAN in 1918 in Queens County, N.Y.

*W.H.*  
*7/11*  
[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED]

(b)(1)  
(b)(7)(d)

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

*Mrs.*  
[REDACTED]

(b)(1)  
(b)(7)(d)

The following description of the subject was obtained by observation and interview by the writer and SA [REDACTED] on 2/27/53 and from the book "Portrait of the Artist as an American, Ben Shahn", by SELDEN RODMAN;

(b)(7)(c)

Name:	BEN SHAHN, Wa. Ben Shan
Address:	73 Coop Circle, Roosevelt, N. J.
Birth:	9/12/98 Kovno, Lithuania
Citizenship:	American

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