

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 8/18/83

SECRET

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 ATTN: INTD, SUPERVISOR [REDACTED]

SECRET

FROM: SAC, CINCINNATI [REDACTED] (P)

NIKOLA TESLA
 [REDACTED] (S) (b)(1)

(OO: CI)

This communication is classified "Secret" in its entirety.

Re telephone call of SA [REDACTED], Cincinnati Division, to Supervisor [REDACTED] FBIHQ, on 8/11/83.

Enclosed for the Bureau and New York is one copy each of pertinent pages from the 1981 book titled "Tesla: Man Out of Time" by Margaret Cheney, with important passages underlined.

For information of Bureau and New York, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] also at WPAFB, have both been in contact with SA [REDACTED] at the Dayton, Ohio RA regarding possible FBI [REDACTED]

SECRET

Classified by: 8262
 Declassify on: OADR

Classified by SP1A 66m
 Declassify on: OADR
 291860

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 1)
 2 - New York (Enc. 1)
 2 - Cincinnati

(6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
 OTHERWISE

17 AUG 22 1983

Approved: [Signature]

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

53 NOV 1 1983

involvement in the seizing of Nikola Tesla's research papers and other documents and scientific instruments after his death on January 7, 1943.

1856
They both explained that Tesla was a scientific genius and experimenter who was born in Yugoslavia of Serbian parents on 7/10/56, went to school later in Gratz, Austria, Prague, Czechoslovakia and Paris, France. He immigrated to the U.S. in the early 1880's, worked for Thomas Edison's laborator for a couple of years, then started his own lab after being paid \$1 million dollars for rights to his patents on his polyphase systems of alternating current dynamos, which lead to the harnessing of Niagra Falls for producing electricity and then the power system of the whole country. He was naturalize in 1889. He predicted wireless communication (radio). His later experiments in Colorado and elsewhere lead to his producing artificial lightning in the millions of volts. He also had patents on the concept of neon and flourescent lights, but he later made little money on his later inventions, although he continued to do experiments leading to devices of great potential worth, which he never patented. He became more reclusive in his later years, living in various hotels in New York City. In the 1930's he claimed he had developed the concept and method of building a "death ray", which could destroy planes at many miles distant, for defending America. Also, there are report of resonance machines or devices whereby he could shake one or many large city buildings from some distance away.

Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said that Tesla donated "some" of his papers (or copies thereof) to the Tesla Institute in Belgrade, Yugoslavia; set up in the 1930's in his honor by their government. Biographies on Tesla claim that either the custodian of Alien Property and/or the FBI seized his papers and other personal effects, including a safe or safes, and other property immediately after his death in 1943. This is elaborated on in the enclosed copies of certain pages of Margaret Cheney's book, "Tesla: Man Out of Time".

[REDACTED] said that after World War II Tesla's papers were shipped to the Tesla Institute in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, by his nephew, Sava Kosanovic, who had become Tito's Ambassador to the U.S. There were reports that some microfilming of Tesla's papers by government agents while they were still in storage in New York under Kosanovic's custody.

CI [REDACTED] (S) (b)(1)

SECRET

Also, the Soviet Union has allegedly had access to some of Tesla's papers, possibly in Belgrade and/or else where, which influenced their early research into directed energy weapons, and Butler feels access to much of Tesla's papers on lightning, beam weapons and/or "death rays" would give him more insight into the Soviet beam weapons program. This is Butler's area of expertise and responsibility. He has been unable to locate any Tesla papers or copies of same in the classified or unclassified libraries at WPAFB. However, there are reports that some portions of them were shipped by the Custodian of Alien Property Office in Washington, D.C. to a technical research lab at WPAFB, possibly the "Equipment Lab", now closed for some years or reorganized into another organization.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are both desirous of learning the locations of such papers of Tesla as now exist in the U.S. for both intelligence and research purposes. Therefore, [REDACTED] would like to examine FBI files relating to Nikola Tesla and possibly any on Sava Kosanovic, his nephew who received the bulk of his papers after Tesla's death, and may possibly have been the subject of FBI investigation. (b)(2)(C)

[REDACTED] travels to the Washington, D.C. area on FTD business periodically and can review FBI files at FBIHQ relating to Tesla and Kosanovic.

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

The Bureau is requested to conduct full indices checks on both Nikola Tesla and Sava Kosanovic.

Should there be such files at FBIHQ, as well as at New York, it is requested that Bureau consider granting the above [REDACTED] of FTD, official access to same, in the interest of national security.

LEADS

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will conduct same indices check as requested of Bureau and advise the Bureau and Cincinnati of results and confirm such files and references still exist there.

SECRET

CI [REDACTED] (S) (b)(1)

SECRET

CINCINNATI

AT DAYTON, OHIO

Will maintain contact with [REDACTED] and (b)(2)(c)

[REDACTED]

SECRET