

THIS CLASSIFIED FILE IS  
CHARGED TO YOU.  
It must be returned within 30  
days. If transferred, immediately  
notify THE RECORDS ADMIN.  
BRANCH by transfer slip.

# RECORDS ADMINISTRATION BRANCH

Department of Justice

MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM NOR ADDED TO THIS FILE  
WITHOUT APPROVAL OF THE RECORDS ADMINISTRATION BRANCH

By order of the Attorney General

THIS FILE HAS BEEN CHARGED AS INDICATED BELOW  
TO TRANSFER — Notify the Service Unit, Br. 500

1 46-7-51-0

SECTION 3

1-10-43-----9-27-43

Returned by Date Division

2-26-53	2-26-53	2-26-53	Mr. Buckley
4-16-53	4-16-53	4-16-53	Mr. Buckley
8-18-54	8-18-54	8-18-54	Mr. Buckley
7-12-55	7-12-55	7-12-55	Mr. Buckley
11-6-56	11-6-56	11-6-56	Mr. Buckley
13-22-69	13-22-69	13-22-69	Mr. Buckley
9-3-75	9-3-75	9-3-75	Mr. Buckley
11/30/79	11/30/79	11/30/79	Mr. Buckley

SCREENED  
61392  
By RC Date 5/16/2019

ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300



Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith  
Chief, Special War Policies Unit  
War Division  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

SCREENED

61392

By MAC Date 5/16/2019



SCREENED

61392

By SAC Date 5/16/2019

FEB 4 - 1943

Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith  
Chief, Special War Policies Unit  
War Division  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is written to confirm the information concerning the properties of Nikola Tesla which I understand has been given to your office orally.

The properties of Mr. Tesla which were found in his rooms at the New Yorker Hotel after his death were examined by representatives of the Office of Alien Property Custodian, Dr. John G. Trump of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, and representatives of the Naval Intelligence Office of the Third Naval District. Documents, manuscripts, and other material of a technical nature were examined by Dr. Trump. It was his opinion that these materials presented an accurate picture of the scientific subjects to which Mr. Tesla had given thought during the later years of his life, and upon the basis of this examination Dr. Trump expressed the opinion that the Tesla papers contain nothing of value to the war effort and nothing which would be helpful to the enemy if it fell into enemy hands. Dr. Trump further stated that he is willing to stake his professional reputation on this opinion.

For your further information, the property left by Mr. Tesla in a safety deposit box at the Governor Clinton Hotel in New York City as security for his unpaid bills was examined and found to be a piece of standard laboratory equipment estimated by Dr. Trump to have been worth possibly \$400 when new.

Although the investigation brought to light nothing of value or significance to the war effort, it is believed that the search was entirely worthwhile and justified as a precautionary measure in the national interest. We appreciate greatly your cooperation in bringing the matter to the attention of the Office of Alien Property Custodian.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Homer Jones

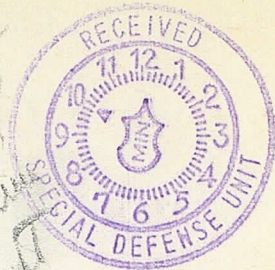
Homer Jones, Chief,  
Division of Investigation and Research





OFFICE OF  
ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN  
WASHINGTON

FEB 4 - 1943



Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith  
Chief, Special War Policies Unit  
War Division  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is written to confirm the information concerning the properties of Nikola Tesla which I understand has been given to your office orally.

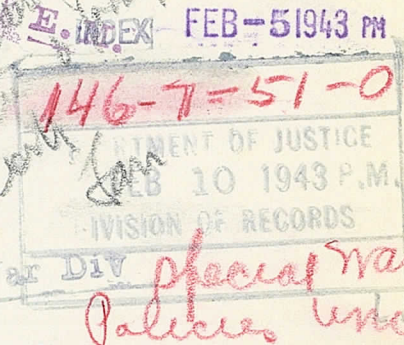
The properties of Mr. Tesla which were found in his rooms at the New Yorker Hotel after his death were examined by representatives of the Office of Alien Property Custodian, Dr. John G. Trump of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, and representatives of the Naval Intelligence Office of the Third Naval District. Documents, manuscripts, and other material of a technical nature were examined by Dr. Trump. It was his opinion that these materials presented an accurate picture of the scientific subjects to which Mr. Tesla had given thought during the later years of his life, and upon the basis of this examination Dr. Trump expressed the opinion that the Tesla papers contain nothing of value to the war effort and nothing which would be helpful to the enemy if it fell into enemy hands. Dr. Trump further stated that he is willing to stake his professional reputation on this opinion.

For your further information, the property left by Mr. Tesla in a safety deposit box at the Governor Clinton Hotel in New York City as security for his unpaid bills was examined and found to be a piece of standard laboratory equipment estimated by Dr. Trump to have been worth possibly \$400 when new.

Although the investigation brought to light nothing of value or significance to the war effort, it is believed that the search was entirely worthwhile and justified as a precautionary measure in the national interest. We appreciate greatly your cooperation in bringing the matter to the attention of the Office of Alien Property Custodian.

Sincerely yours,

*Homer Jones*  
Homer Jones, Chief,  
Division of Investigation and Research



SCREENED

By SAC Date 5/16/209



SPECIAL WAR POLICIES UNIT  
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date February 5, 1943

Mr. Sharp:

Letter from Homer Jones, APC, 2/4 re Nikola  
Tesla and examination of his property in  
New York Hotels

Please write a nice letter of thanks to them  
for their excellent and prompt work.

Sam

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

Smith, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Altman, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Altman, Mrs. A. \_\_\_\_\_  
Andrews, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Banville, Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Bicknell, Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Boyd, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Burton, Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
Carter, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Coleman, Mr. Ben \_\_\_\_\_  
Davison, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Hudson, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Knapp, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Lane, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Long, Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Lowstuter, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
MacKnight, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Purdum, Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
Roth, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Sharp, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Simmons, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Schwartz, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Smith, Mr. Bruce \_\_\_\_\_  
Thody, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas, Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
Whearty, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

SCREENED

61392  
By SAC Date 5/16/2019



JRS

RECEIVED

FEB 9 1943

SCREENED

61392

By 8AC Date 5/16/2019

146-7-51-0

Mr. Homer Jones, Chief,  
Division of Investigation and Research,  
Alien Property Custodian,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Homer:

Thank you very much for your letter of February 4, 1943 reporting on the examination of the properties of Mr. Nikola Tesla.

I entirely agree with you that although the investigation did not produce anything of value to the war effort, it was nevertheless entirely justified as a precautionary measure in the national interest. I think your office did an excellent job, and to say the least, your machinery was put into action at practically a moment's notice. Joe King and the men in New York all cooperated 100% in getting the material promptly under jurisdiction of your office, and this was indeed the expeditious and appropriate thing to do.

The cooperation of your staff was appreciated, and we may have occasion to call on you again in similar instances.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

Lawrence M. C. Smith,  
Chief, Special War Policies Unit,  
War Division.

