

E. E. ALDERMAN .
434 GRAND AVE.
DAYTON, OHIO

Dayton, 5, Ohio
January 2, 1947

Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry St. (Paxtang)
Harrisburg, Penna.

Dear friend Mr. Bender:

We got your nice Christmas greeting . . and hope you and Mrs. Bender got ours..... And I was especially pleased to receive your Dec. 22 letter, as I had not heard from you for a long time.

Yes, I too received Xmas greetings from p.o.w.'s and their families. I thought they had forgotten you and me long ago, but some families were so grateful they again remembered this Xmas. I got 24 of them and about half the number, enclosed notes inside, which I enjoyed very much. The state which produced the most of them was California: I got four or five from there.

Like you, I am nursing along my old automobile. Yes, we made the trip to southwestern Indiana the first week in September, and then went again for Thanksgiving Day and the week-end..... on the same old tires, which were needing replacement even before the war started. At the start of the war, I had them re-grooved, but later on the government prohibited the dealers doing this, for some reason. You surely had an unfortunate experience with replacing rear-assembly . . . price and being held up 3 weeks..

My car has now gone over 70,000 miles, and adjusting or fixing this or that as I discovered something not just right (before trouble developed) my car is running fine, the finish looks shiny new, and am hoping it will go a great number more miles. It's a 1935 Oldsmobile and the engine runs smoothly . . . never had any new engine bearings installed, and I don't understand what is holding them up so good.

Sorry you have had so much work to do in connection with your home. I have noticed that these home owners are always busy during their spare hours. As for the homes built during the war here, I have heard many reports that there is doubt they will hold up until the payments are all made. For about four months real-estate prices here have softened up quite a bit, - following departure of many men who were here for war duration only..... and those who can find no rentals, or, those home-owners who want to sell before the bottom drops out, are still priced out of the market. I look for a steep drop before long, and especially if the country is to have a big recession as many predict.

Something which has never happened before to my knowledge, was the slashing of prices by dept-stores as long as two weeks BEFORE Christmas, the very advertisements in papers just looked like they were panic-stricken. And now since Xmas is over, even much greater slashes are made. It is reported that all stores were greatly over-stocked for the demand, goods bought at high prices, and total sales here were only about 35% of their Xmas stocks.....A lot of stores are bound to be hurt financially, and that goes across the country.

And you and Mrs. Bender can look for lower food prices very soon. Do

E. E. ALDERMAN
434 GRAND AVE.
DAYTON, OHIO

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try to find one to go up to 50,000 kc and down as low as 125 kc. I hear the hams saying that the ultra short-waves are wonderful for clear channels, but they have trouble with "skipping" . . . in other words, they fade out..... This I think is due to the fact that the higher the frequency, the straighter direction they go, and shoot off into space if the transmitter and the receiver are much of a distance apart.


I hear that those Halicrafters get great results . . . and have plug-ins to get the ultra wave-lengths . . . and sell for only \$65.00..... Is that right ?

Mrs. Alderman and I are fairly well... Of course I have told you before that I will soon be 57 yrs old (April) and cannot be as frisky as I was a few years ago, but I am so much better in health than 3 years ago.

Hope you and Mrs. Bender....also your son, are fine . . . and will enjoy the best of health throughout 1947. Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Your friend,


E. E. Alderman

LAW OFFICES
JOHN J. O'CONNOR

29 BROADWAY
NEW YORK 6
BOWLING GREEN 9 - 2348

August 30, 1948

WASHINGTON BUILDING
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.
REPUBLIC 1080

Honorable Tom C. Clark
Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Mildred Elizabeth Gillars

My dear Attorney General:

Enclosed find copy of a letter received by me in reference to this prospective defendant, just brought back, in custody, from Germany, reputedly to be charged with "treason". As the letter now relates, it was this particular lady, dubbed "Axis Sally," who in a broadcast from Germany, in 1944, made known the existence and location of my oldest son, John, who was then a prisoner of war of the Germans, and about whom we had not heard for months - as to whether he was living or dead.

As I am informed, she furnished, many times, like information, over the German radio, which, of course, was of great comfort to many Americans, who were anxious about their sons and relatives. It is natural, therefore, that we, and others who likewise received the good news, through her broadcasts, should feel sympathetic toward the lady.

I am also advised that many veterans enjoyed her broadcasts.

Other than the above, I know nothing about the lady. Of course, if she is guilty of "treason," she should be punished accordingly, but she should not be tried or punished for "treason," in any attempt to get even with her or satisfy pressure to prosecute her for any other reason, unless that reason is openly disclosed and constitutes a crime.

As an observant American citizen, I can tell you that there is definitely a widespread feeling whereby some of these other so-called "treason" trials, such as one or two held in Boston not so long ago, do not sit quite well with our people - not strictly "on the up and up," as they say. They have a sort of feeling that those so charged were tried, not for really being "traitors" to their country, but because they were quite vicious and unusually outspoken in their attacks on certain individuals and groups. There is unquestionably a similar size-up of the so-called Washington "Treason" trials - which ended in a dud.

I shall never forget a conversation I had, while I was a member of Congress, with Mr. Mitchell, then Attorney General under President Hoover. The occasion for the meeting was a certain protest made by me about an ambitious Republican United States District Attorney, in New York, playing

Honorable Tom C. Clark

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August 30, 1948

politics by prosecuting Democratic leaders, through the instrument of the income tax law. In that connection, Attorney General Mitchell said to me, in effect, that the American Bar would always regard it as a black mark on the escutcheon of American jurisprudence, that Al Capone was prosecuted under the income tax laws, which were used as a vehicle to get him for various alleged murders and other crimes, such a circuitous apprehension being an abject admission of the efficiency of our criminal agencies.

If the lady, Gillars, has in fact committed some crime other than "treason", such as criminal libel, for instance, she should be prosecuted for the crime she actually committed, and for no other. If she be guilty only of intolerance, she should be left to the public scorn, which our people almost invariably bestow on such un-American behavior.

With respect, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) John J. O'Connor

August 29, 1948.
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pa.

Law Office of John J. O'Connor,
Washington Building, Wash. D.C.

Dear Sirs:-

Would you be kind enough to furnish me with the address of John M. Holzworth, attorney in the defence of Miss Mildred Gillers, (referred to as "Axis Sally")? or if it possible for you to contact him in my behalf and tell him I have in my possession what I believe to be sufficient evidence to acquit the defendant.

Thanking you for all the kindness you have shown me in the past, I remain

Gratefully yours,

Irwin F. Bender,
3786 Derry Street,
Harrisburg, Pa.

Irwin F. Bender

(My phone number is Harrisburg, Pa. #3-1229. (3-1229))

NOTE:- I relayed all her personal prisoner-of-war messages to the mothers and wives here in America and have in my possession carbon-copies of most all of them, together with her personal comments and helps to the anxious people here in America who waited so long for any news as to the where-abouts of their boys who were either prisoners-of-war or still "missing in action." Her messages via the Berlin short-wave radio will be forever cherished by the many thousands of homes into which they eventually found their way to gladden the hearts and renew once again the faith in mankind even in the bitterness of war.)

Confidential. His office is not listed. I ran into him some years ago. He is a peculiar type and I doubt if his getting into the case will provide help. - JJK - You might possibly address him c/o U.S. Dist. Court. Wash.

THE  NEWS
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER
220 EAST FORTY SECOND STREET
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
MURRAY HILL 2-1234

ROBERT G. SHAND
MANAGING EDITOR

September 2, 1948

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bender:

Miss Ruth Montgomery of our Washington Bureau tells me she talked to you on the phone today about Miss Gillars.

As things stand now, Miss Gillars has no attorney. She has arranged to get one before her next appearance before Commissioner Lawrence on September 14. As soon as we know who the lawyer is, we will send you his name.

In the meantime, we plan to do a little follow-up work, with a view to running a story on the "Midge" part of Miss Gillars' wartime broadcast activities.

Sincerely,


Richard Clarke

Enclosure

RC:D

JOHN C. KUNKEL
CUMBERLAND, DAUPHIN
AND LEBANON COUNTIES
PENNSYLVANIA

LORENA RICHINGS
SECRETARY AT HARRISBURG
TEL. 4-3356

COMMITTEE:
BANKING AND CURRENCY

BLANCHE GARNEY
SECRETARY AT WASHINGTON
NA. 3120 EXT. 357

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

Harrisburg 2, Pa.

September 6, 1948

My dear Mr. Bender:

Your letter relative to the treason charge being brought against Miss Mildred Elizabeth Gillars just reached me. This matter has been gone into most carefully by the FBI. They have assured me on this score. Furthermore, Miss Gillars cannot be convicted unless a jury of twelve men and/or women bring a verdict against her.

Miss Gillars has the same protection accorded to every American citizen in our courts. She will be defended by counsel and she has the opportunity to defend her case. No Member of Congress nor anyone else can justifiably interfere with the operations of our courts unless they depart from the accepted rules and practices and the law.

I feel sure that Miss Gillars will receive the full opportunity to defend herself and to prove her innocence of the charge made, if she is innocent.

Very sincerely yours,



Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

THE  NEWS
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER
220 EAST FORTY SECOND STREET
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.
MURRAY HILL 2-1234

RICHARD CLARKE
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

September 7, 1948

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bender:

Your letter of September 6th makes no mention of the story about Mildred Gillars which appeared in The News September 4. I enclose a copy.

Both sides of the matter will undoubtedly be discussed at great length at Miss Gillars' trial.

Sincerely,


Richard Clarke

Enclosure

RC:D

CABLE ADDRESS
DANBOONE

DANIEL F. BOONE
ATTORNEY AT LAW
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

TELEPHONE
NATIONAL 2784

September 20th 1948

Mr. Irwin F. Bender,
3786 Derry Street,
Harrisburg,
Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Bender :-

Re: Mildred Elizabeth Gillars

This is just a brief note to thank you for your letter in behalf of above subject. I also received today, from Mrs. Herrick, your letter of September 14th., which was forwarded from Conneaut, Ohio.

Miss Gillars has engaged a local lawyer Mr. James J. Laughlin, and I will see that your letters and messages are delivered to both Mr. Laughlin and Miss Gillars promptly and will advise you of their desire for further help from you and your friends who offer your services.

I will also make inquiry about the registered letter sent Miss Gillars and advise you if she received same.

Again thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

Daniel F. Boone

September 25, 1948,
3786 Derry Street,
Harrisburg, Pa.

Mr. Edwin C. Hill
c/o Station W-J-Z, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Hill:-

We have always associated the name of "Edwin C. Hill" with the best traditions of America, - its people and institutions. Your excellent voice carries that rich humanitarian tone which is unmistakably wholesome to the heart and mind. The prestige you have built up with your vast audience of listeners can never be fully appreciated except by some show of appreciation by your unseen listeners.

I wish to thank you for the splendid talks you give vis NBC each evening. However, on Saturday night you injected into a news-cast a few "ad lib" lines upon a certain item that were not in the general news dispatches either in the Press or on other radio commentators broadcasts. (Lowell Thomas, etc.)

When you read the item relative to Miss Mildred E. Gillars, you not only repeated the "foul" name that has been clamped on her by the FBI (reported by North African troops) of "Axis Sally", you stated (in substance) that this woman gloried in "Heil Hitler" and the rest of the Nazi acclamations for which she stands charged with "high treason."

These are not the words of Edwin C. Hill as we know him. His words are fair and he speaks for Americans and is whole-heartedly, AMERICAN. Unless he knows the entire history of Miss Gillars' magnificent contribution to the enhancement of the American War effort (through the medium of her thousands of comforting messages to the wives and mothers of brave American lads who were missing-in-action or prisoners-of-war in Germany) he should not speak freely when so doing he risks the life of a brave American Woman who is charged with "high treason" which on conviction carries the maximum penalty of DEATH.

I cannot believe these were Edwin C. Hill's own words. I believe rather they were "written in" to gain a certain advantage over the defendant, Miss Gillars.

A little "knowledge is a dangerous thing." That applies to many things.

I am still for Edwin C. Hill as I knew him before I heard this "foul" item and I trust I shall not be obliged to hear anything but the whole-hearted TRUTH as only he can give it.

Respectfully yours,

Irwin F. Bender.

Sept. 26, 1948
3786 Derry Street,
Harrisburg, Pa.

Miss Ruth Montgomery,
THE NEWS,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Your article in the Saturday issue of THE NEWS is most commendable for it carried a most complete account of the hearing and presented a word picture that was very clear. Most of the news-casts and newspaper items on this case carried only vague descriptions of the event and most of them were distorted.

When you inquired, via our phone conversation some time ago, as to whether I had contacted Miss Gillars by letter at the District Jail, I got the impression that I could correspond with her; At least to send her a letter of information in her defense (as an American citizen?). This I did. However, I sent the letter "REGISTERED with a return receipt guaranteed" at 7:45 A.M. E.D. Time on Sept. 9th and they purposely held the letter for the entire "time-limit" which is allowed by the Postal Rules, - "a ten day period for delivery of a Registered letter";--and then returned the letter (unopened) to me on Tuesday, Sept. 21 st at 8:00 A.M. with a "scribbled notation" in pencil on the face of the letter, - "unable to located". Perhaps they had tried to "steam open the glued flaps" of the letter as is customary by "prying eels" who attempt to hide their underhand work. It was my intention that they must either "open the letter on the level" or deliver it to her un-opened, - for I deliberately opened all the flaps of the envelope and "cemented" them shut with a hard "all-purpose" radio cement, so the usual "steaming process" was impossible.

There was nothing secret in the letter, I would have been only too glad if they had opened and read the letter, - but I also think that they should have at least been that "fair" as to let her know that someone was attempting to contact her in the defense. If this is the "Fair System of Justice" that Mr. Cyril Lawrence has guaranteed in this case, - then my original charge to Mr. Lawrence (I mailed him a complete letter Aug. 23rd.) still stands, - Miss Gillars is being "RAILROADED" by certain vindictive persons who wish to see everything that brushed elbows with Germany wiped off the face of the earth.

Thanking you again for your excellent help in this case, I remain

Gratefully yours,

Irwin F. Bender.

P.S. I mailed "the jail letter" to Mr. Daniel Boone, who is assisting in the case for her sister (Mrs. E.R. Herrick of Conneaut, O.) He said he would turn the information over to the defence lawyer, Mr. James J. Laughlin.

October 11, 1948,
3786 Derry Street,
Harrisburg, Pa.

Mr. Lowell Thomas,
Pawling, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Thomas:-

On the 15th of November the "treason" trial of Mildred Elizabeth Gillars will begin in Washington, D.C. If you will be so kind to listen to the following story, I know that much good will come of it, in-so-far as anything you might include in future news-comments may harm or help this sorry situation.

Miss Mildred Gillars, known to the American "relay-listeners" as "Midge", by which name she identified herself over the Berlin short-wave radio, has been "kidnapped" by the Department of Justice and they have framed a "treason" charge against her.

This brave woman, unfortunately, found herself in Europe at the out-break of the "war-in-Europe" (which began some time before we entered World War II) and when this girl discovered the plight of our boys who were prisoners-of-war in Germany, - she cast her lot with our boys and began the great humanitarian work of helping the boys write their messages; collecting them from the various camps; often making voice-recordings; - and then reading or playing-back the messages over the Berlin short-wave radio for American listeners to pick-up and relay to the next-of-kin. Undoubtedly, she received word through the International Red Cross that her messages were being heard and relayed.

She carried out this priceless service for nearly two years and thousands of people here in America received the great "aid and comfort" that was to be had in her courageous efforts in transmitting these messages of life and hope.

The false charge of "treason" (for the definition of TREASON carries the charge of "giving aid and comfort to the enemy") is based on her North African broadcasts which were harmless; - and there certainly was no "aid and comfort" given to the Germans in all her radio activities.

I have been working very hard in the defence of Miss Gillars (whom the Department of Justice has so "unfairly" dubbed, - Axis Sally), and have a few influential people helping in the cause. i.e. (Former Congressman John J. O'Connor, Mr. Richard Clarke of the New York, NEWS, Congressman John C. Kunkel, etc.) My wife and I listened-in and relayed nearly all the messages that "Midge", (Miss Gillars) gave via the Berlin short-wave radio during the war, and the thousands of letters of appreciation we have received testify to the fact that Miss Gillars has rendered to the American people a priceless service that can never be repaid. The FBI and their "Alma Mater", the Department of Justice, are trying hard to carry out the wishes of certain vindictive persons to "railroad" this girl to life imprisonment, and even - DEATH. My sole purpose in writing you is to make you acquainted with the TRUTH, which in every respect is being kept from the American public by the very Department which is supposed to protect the rights of every American citizen and uphold TRUTH and JUSTICE.

My plea to you is :- When referring to this case in any of your news-casts please do not defame this brave woman's character, such as did Edwin C. Hill, in his "Human Side Of The News", the other night. He stated (in substance) that "Mildred Gillars, the Axis Sally of War-Time Nazi radio-fame, who gloried in the Heil Hitlers and all the glamorous Nazi acclaim, was brought before a Federal Judge and heard

October 24, 1948,
3786 Derry Street,
Harrisburg, Pa.

Mr. Daniel F. Boone,
National Press Bldg.
Wash. 4, D.C.

Dear Mr. Boone:-

I have received a letter from Mildred Gillars and in that letter she states:- (REFERRING TO A LETTER SHE GAVE YOU FOR ME).

"I gave the first letter to Mr. Boone, the second to Mr. Laughlin, my attorney, and now we are going to try, through the evidence of my sister, Mrs. Herrick, to direct this letter to its desired destination."

Since I have your letter of Sept. 20th in which you show determination to act "promptly" (as the time is exceedingly limited) in this case. I'll take that letter immediately.

Please give me your answer in a few days. If I do not receive that letter this week yet, I shall have to inform Mr. John J. O'Connor who is helping this case as an interested "by-stander". If you get that letter from Miss Gillars before October 12th (which date appears on her letter) you certainly had time to get in touch with me.

As Shakespeare has said in his famous "soliloquy", - "the oppressors wrong", the law's delay, the insolence of office, etc." ,---let's not be guilty of all that.

Patiently waiting,-

Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street,
Harrisburg, Pa.



October 24, 1948
3786 Derry Street,
Harrisburg, Pa.

Mr. Drew Pearson,
2820 Dumbarton Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pearson:-

On the 15th of November the "treason" trial of Mildred Elizabeth Gillars will begin in Washington, D.C. If you will be so kind to listen to the following story, I know that much good will come of it, - in-so-far as anything you might include in future news-comments may harm or help this sorry situation.

----- ***** ----- ***** ----- ***** -----

Miss Mildred Gillars, known to the hundreds of American "relay-listeners" as "Midge", by which name she identified herself over the Berlin short-wave radio, has been "kidnapped" by the Department of Justice and they have framed a "treason" charge against her.

This brave woman, unfortunately, found herself in Europe at the out-break of the War-in-Europe (which began before we entered World War II) and when we entered it, this brave girl discovered the plight of our boys who were prisoners-of-war in Germany- and she cast her lot with our boys and began that great humanitarian work of helping the boys write their messages; collecting them from the various camps, -often making voice-recordings;- and then reading or playing-back the messages over the Berlin short-wave radio for American listeners to pick-up and relay to the next-of-kin. Undoubtedly she received word through the International Red Cross that her messages were being heard and relayed.

She carried out this priceless service for nearly two years and thousands of people here in America received the great "aid and comfort" that was to be had in her courageous efforts in transmitting these messages of life and hope.

The false charge of "treason" (for the definition of TREASON as stated in ARTICLE III, Section 3, of the U.S. Constitution carries the charge of "giving aid and comfort to the enemy") is based on her North African broadcasts which were harmless, - and there certainly was no "aid and comfort" given to the Germans in all her radio activities.

I have been working very hard in the defense of Miss Gillars (whom the Department of Justice has so "unfairly" dubbed -Axis Sally), and have some influential people helping in the cause; i.e. (Former Congressman John J. O'Connor, Mr. Richard Clarke of the New York NEWS, Congressman John C. Kunkel, etc.)

My wife and I listened-in and relayed nearly all the messages that "Midge", (Miss Gillars), read via the Berlin short-wave radio during the war and the thousands of letters of appreciation we have received testify to the fact that Miss Gillars has rendered to the American people a priceless service that can never be repaid. The FBI and their "Alma Mater", the Department of Justice, are trying hard to carry out the wishes of certain vindictive persons to "railroad" this girl to life imprisonment or even -DEATH.

My sole purpose in writing you is to make you acquainted with the TRUTH, which in every respect is being kept from the American public by the very Department which is supposed to protect the rights of every American citizen and uphold TRUTH and JUSTICE. If the thousands of men and women here in America knew the true identity of this noble woman, -the person who made it possible for them to quickly discover the safety of their boys as reported over the Berlin radio, - when they otherwise may not otherwise have known of their boys' survival after the War Department sent out the dreadful, -"MISSING-IN-ACTION" telegrams.

Dr. Pearson

PAGR -2.

As before stated, if these people knew how their "war-time" benefactor was being so shamefully treated, -they would rise in righteous indignation and demand her release.

My plea to you, Mr. Pearson, is--- since this woman is placed on trial for her life, -when referring to this case (if necessary) in any of your news-casts please do not defame this brave woman's character, such as did Edwin C. Hill, in his "Human Side Of the News" (for Kelvinator Co.) the other night. He stated (insubstance) that "Mildred Gillars, the Axis Sally of War-Time Nazi radio-fame, who gloried in the Heil-Hitlers and all the glamorous Nazi acclaim, was brought before a Federal Judge and heard the charge of HIGH TREASON read to her, etc."

Only those who are ignorant of the real truth could bring in such a condemnation to one who gave so much for American prisoners-of-war and their next-of-kin.

I thank you so much for your kind attention to this letter and remain,

Hopeful unto the end,-

Respectfully yours,

Irwin F. Bender.

October 24, 1948,
3686 Derry Street, (3786 Derry St.)
Harrisburg, Pa.

Mr. & Mrs. D. B. Frampton,
Schenley Apartments,
Pittsburgh, Pa. (13)

Dear Friends:-

My last correspondence with you was in the form of that magnificent "List of 106th DIVISION MEN REPORTED MISSING IN "BATTLE OF THE BULGE", which you mailed to me back in April 1945; And the fact that you had listed your own brave boy, Corp. D. B. Frampton, so inconspicuously, as just one of the boys, is a great testimony of the great heart and unselfish contribution you folks gave to the alleviation of much of the heart-ache and pain suffered by many of the next-of-kin during World War II.

I have written you this letter to acquaint you with another person who during the war also contributed much to the "alleviation of the suffering of heart-sick American men and woman" whose boys were either missing-in-action or prisoners-of-war in Germany.

On November the 15th, 1948, begins the "treason" trial of Mildred Elizabeth Gillars. If you will listen to the true story I now present, I know you will arrive at a different conclusion in this sorry situation:-

Mildred E. Gillars, known to hundreds of American "relay-listeners" (short-wave listening posts) as "Midge" by which name she identified herself over the Berlin short-wave radio, has been "kidnapped by the Department of Justice and they have framed a "treason" charge against her.

This brave woman, unfortunately, found herself in Europe at the out-break of the War-in-Europe (which began before we entered World War II) and when we entered it; and when this woman found the plight of our boys who were prisoners-of-war in Germany, she cast her lot with our boys and began the humanitarian work of helping the boys write their messages, collecting them from the various camps, and then reading them over the Berlin short-wave radio for American listeners to pick-up and relay to the next-of-kin. Undoubtedly, she received word through the International Red Cross that her messages were being heard and relayed.

She carried out this priceless service for more than two years, and the thousands of Americans, who received this great "aid and comfort" that was to be had in her efforts in transmitting these message of life and hope, are grateful for these relays.

The false charge of "treason" (for the Definition of TREASON as contained in the U.S. Constitution ARTICLE III, SECTION 3, carries the charge of "giving aid and comfort to the enemy") is based on her North African broadcasts which were harmless, and their certainly was no "aid and comfort" given to the Germans in all her radio activities.

I have been working very hard in the defense of Miss Gillars (whom the Department of Justice has so "unfairly" dubbed -Axis Sally) and have some influential people helping in the cause, i.e. former Congressman O'Connor of New York; Mr. Clark of the New York NEWS, Congressman John C. Kunkel, etc. My wife and I listened-in and relayed nearly all the messages that "Midge" (Miss Gillars) read via the Berlin short-wave radio during the War and the thousands of letters of appreciation we have received testify to the fact that Miss Gillars has rendered to the American people a priceless service that can never be repaid.

The FBI and their "Alma Mater", the Department of Justice, are trying hard to carry out the wishes of certain vindictive (revengeful) persons to "railroad" this girl to life imprisonment, or even -DEATH. The TRUTH, in every respect in this case, is being kept from the American public by the very Department which is supposed to protect the

rights of every American citizen and uphold TRUTH and JUSTICE.

As before stated, this letter is to acquaint ~~you~~ the magnificent work this girl has done. I believe that eventually the American public will know the real story and much good will come of the sustaining facts in her defense.

Thanking you for the courtesy you have given me in reading this letter, I remain

Respectfully yours,

Irwin F. Bender.

(Formerly of 124 N. 2nd Street, Oberlin, Pa.)

P.S. Remember to speak a good word for Miss Gillars as the trial draws near. Thank you.)

D-13, Remington

3786 Derry Street,
Harrisburg, Pa.
October 26, 1948.

United States
Post Office Department,
Post Office,
Federal Building,
Harrisburg, Pa.

Dear Sirs:-

At (about) 8:00 A.M. on September 9th, 1948, I mailed a letter, registered with a return-receipt requested, to the following address:-

Miss Mildred E. Gillars
c/o District of Columbia Jail,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Your clerk at the "registry Window" informed me that the letter would be delivered or "we'll check up and find out why it isn't."

At the end of one week, not having received the "return receipt", (and knowing positively that Miss Gillars was being held at the jail), I made inquiry at the before-mentioned window and the same clerk;- complaining that "this is a definite address and that letter should have been delivered long before this." He replied, - that postal rules gave "a 10-day period in which to make contact", and that "a two-week period must elapse before a tracer could be put on it."

While these are postal rules, - I knew what was happening at the other end of this "delivery". So, just as was to be expected, - the letter was returned to me at (about) 8:15 A.M. Tuesday September 21 st with a "penciled notation"---

"unable to locate"

They had purposely kept that letter at the other end of the "line" to block any effort in contacting this "addressee". That was perfectly alright and they were within the law. But why was the letter returned to me marked, -

"unable to locate"?

That was a dastardly LIE and I do not believe that this is listed in your "POSTAL RULES". If it is it certainly is poor policy.

I am within my rights as an American citizen to demand a correct answer to this request.

I want you to "trace" this letter from the "Registry window", when it was mailed Sept. 9, 1948 until it reached the District of Columbia jail and find out who and why it was rejected. (i.e. I certainly cannot accept the answer which appeared on the letter in pencil mark).

You have the records of this letter (undoubtedly on file). At least you should have the "card" my wife signed when the letter was returned to me. She signed it first in her name and then in my name.

For a convincing "check-up", here is the number of the registered article:-

(Receipt for Registered Article No. 5136.....)

The accompanying newspaper clipping will attest to the statement that Miss Gillars was in the District of Columbia Jail since August.

Remember I paid the regulation price for this postal service and am certainly entitled to "full benefits" as designated by law. Any "truthful" answer you can get for me will be most certainly accepted for I must have a definite testimony to submit to Mr. James J. Laughlin, the defense attorney.

Respectfully, Irwin F. Bender, 3786 Derry Street, Harrisburg, Pa.

October 19, 1948,

Mrs. Martin:-

This letter is just a check-up on the suspicions that someone is intercepting my out-going mail.

Please let me know when you receive this letter.

Keep it confidential, please.

Thanks very much.

Respectfully yours,

Irwin F. Bender.
(ice cream man).

LOWELL THOMAS
H A M M E R S L E Y H I L L
P A W L I N G , N E W Y O R K

October 18, 1948

Dear Mr. Bender,

Many thanks for your letter
and all that interesting information.

Cordially,

Lowell

JAMES J. LAUGHLIN
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.
NATIONAL 2001

October 28, 1948

Mr. I. F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

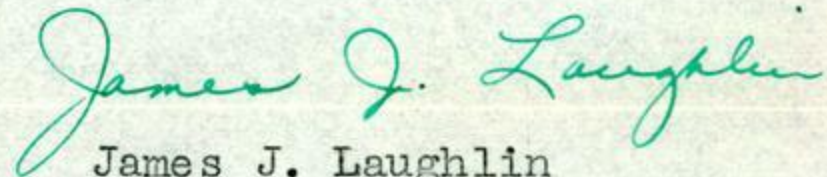
Dear Mr. Bender:

I have been endeavoring to write you for some time with regard to Miss Gillars' case, but I have been exceedingly busy in court and have had to go out of town on several occasions. We appreciate very much your interest in the matter and will be very glad if you can furnish us with the names of any persons who can be subpoenaed as witnesses.

The case is tentatively set for November 15, but I have serious doubt whether it can be reached on that date. I filed a number of motions in Court yesterday. Perhaps your local papers will give some details of their contents. If there is any information which I can furnish you at any time please let me know.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


James J. Laughlin

JJL:ecb

ARISTOCRAT PARCHEMENT

JAMES J. LAUGHLIN
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.
NATIONAL 2001

October 29, 1948

Mr. I. F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

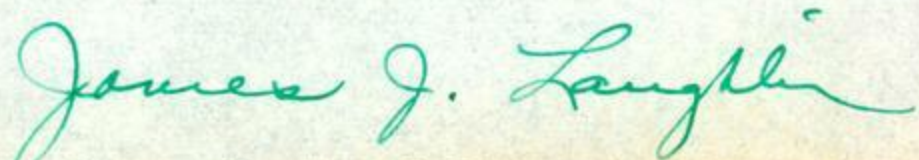
Dear Mr. Bender:

Mrs. Gillars has asked me to write you to obtain from you a list of soldiers who had some knowledge of Mrs. Gillars' broadcasts. She said she believes you had such a list. If you have I would like to have it as complete as possible with any addresses you might have.

We are filing a motion for continuance and also a motion to require the Government to produce witnesses at the expense of the United States, since Mrs. Gillars is without funds. Such motion is supposed to be filed by November 5th. Therefore your prompt attention to this will be appreciated.

Thanking you, I am

Sincerely yours,



James J. Laughlin

JJL:ecb

OCTOBER 23, 1948,

3786 DERRY STREET,
HARRISBURG, PA.

UNITED FEATURES SYNDICATE,
220 East 45th Street,
New York, N.Y.

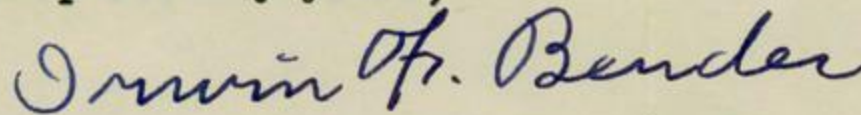
Dear Sirs:-

Mrs. Anita Gray of the editorial staff, THE PATRIOT & THE
EVENING NEWS, (Harrisburg, Pa.) informed me that I may secure the
"Washington, D.C." address of Mr. Westbrook Pegler by writing you a
request.

Their present files do not contain an exact address.

I will appreciate your kindness if you will furnish me
with the above mentioned address, and I remain

Respectfully yours,



Irwin F. Bender

Irwin F. Bender,

Mr. Westbrook Pegler
c/o King Features Syndicate
235 East 45th Street
New York 17, N. Y.

LAW OFFICES
JAMES J. LAUGHLIN
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.
NATIONAL 2001

July 27, 1949

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

My dear Mr. Bender:

It was a pleasure to find your very cordial letter in this morning's mail, as it reminds us that you were one of the very few who unselfishly cooperated with us in the defense of Mildred Gillars. Your material is very impressive and we feel that it was reversible legal error for its introduction in evidence to be refused by the trial judge.

After discussing your letter with Mr. Laughlin we have decided to request your permission to allow us to retain your letters for a longer period. Although we are yet having some technical legal difficulties, Miss Gillars' case is now pending in the appeals court. Due to the summer vacation it will probably not be heard until fall and we feel confident the case will be reversed and of course your material will then loom large in the defense and acquittal of Miss Gillars.

Let us assure you that your evidence is being kept intact in a safe place, safe from possible theft or fire damage.

My brother has asked to be remembered and reminds me of the friendly courtesy which he was shown by you in Harrisburg.

Please let us know if this request conforms to your pleasure.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely,

William E. Owen

William E. Owen

WEO:ecb

24-811

#1 Mr. Wm. E. Queen

c/o MR JAMES J. LAUGHLIN
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON,
DC.

My dear Mr. Queen:

According to ^{the} newspaper
items I was able to gather,
(U.P., A.P. and Special N.Y. TIMES
DISPATCHES) The U.S. CIRCUIT
COURT OF APPEALS ^(ON MAY-19) DENIED
EVERY ARGUMENT IN
FAVOR OF A NEW TRIAL
FOR ^{MISS} MILDRED E. GILLARS,
THIS VERDICT IS ~~MAILED~~ ^{OBVIOUSLY}

A DIE-STAMPED ORDER FROM
THOSE IN A POSITION OF
PREJUDICED AUTHORITY WHO
ORIGINALLY SOUGHT OUT THIS

#9
GIRL'S APPREHENSION; AND
IN THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE,
COOKED-UP A FLIMSAY
CHARGE AGAINST HER, I.E.
"abusing the Right of Free
Speech."

Since her constitutional
rights were rationed
by those who sought to
"narrow" her, I am
anxious to know if her
case will be appealed
to the Supreme Court in
the fall?

#3 The "quality of ~~microscopy~~
is not strained" ~~if~~ if
the full constitutional right
of Article VI of the so-called
Bill of Rights is permitted ⁱⁿ
"In all criminal prosecutions the

If this appeal is to be
made, I shall convey
some enlightening material
to the Hon. Wm. A. Douglas
of the Supreme Court, who
is now beginning his vacation,
a trip to the Orient.

the integrity of our
"founding fathers"
Article VI of the so-called "Bill of Rights"

In all criminal prosecutions, the
accused shall ~~have~~ enjoy the
right to a speedy and public
trial, ... etc., etc., ... "to have
compulsory process for obtaining
witness in his favor, etc."

Perhaps it isn't necessary to recall
that the Court, during the trial,
denied her witnesses in support
of the magnificent word she
did for our day in allegiance
to the Geneva Pact our Government
signed during the Hoover
administration

Thanking you and Mr. Laughlin
for the magnificent work and
courageous fight in ~~the~~
of Miss Gillars cause,

In gratefully yours

Irwin Bender

The Patriot
and
The Evening News

DEAN HOFFMAN
EDITOR

HARRISBURG, PA.

March 22, 1949

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bender:

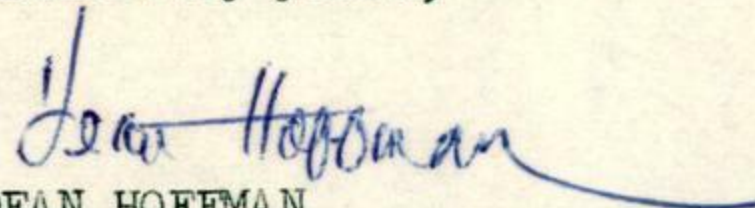
Absence from the office has delayed my acknowledging your letter of March 13, in which you challenge the accuracy of our March 12 comment on the "Axis Sally" verdict.

I think that on a technicality we will have to concede that there is not one hundred percent accuracy in our statement that nobody was shot for treason in the United States for 150 years, in view of your allusion to the execution of John Brown. If we were wrigglers, we might claim that the John Brown and the Axis Sally cases are in two different categories, because while treason is treason, Brown's treason was "internal" and Axis Sally was "external".

This is a distinction without a difference possibly, but it was just that slight difference that threw the writer of the article off guard. I can assure you that we all will be a little more scrupulous in the future and hope to live up to our credo which you brought to my attention.

I thank you very much for your letter and hope that under any circumstances you will not hesitate to write to us.

Sincerely yours,



DEAN HOFFMAN
EDITOR

William T. Ellis
3306 Valley Drive
Alexandria, Va.
20 April 1949

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bender:

Your letter of March 20, 1949, has been forwarded to me by the Sunday Editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Your point of view and comments on the "Axis Sally" trial are very interesting. Although I cannot agree with your statement that "modern civilization has never witnessed so great 'un-American Activities' as staged by our Government," I found your arguments stimulating.

I appreciate your interest in the article. Thank you very much for writing.

Cordially,

William T. Ellis

William T. Ellis

JAMES J. LAUGHLIN
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.
NATIONAL 2001

November 27, 1950

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bender:

Your letter addressed to Mrs. Brownell has been brought to my attention.

Miss Gillars' conviction was affirmed on appeal by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. It was my thought to apply to the Supreme Court of the United States for a writ of certiorari. However after the appeal was affirmed by the Court of Appeals Miss Gillars stated that it was her desire that I participate no longer in the case.

In order that her rights would be protected, I asked the Court of Appeals to appoint an attorney in her behalf. They refused to do that. I then informed the Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States of the receipt of her letter and suggested that steps be taken in that Court to preserve her rights. As a matter of fact, I did prepare a paper to safeguard the time limit. However Miss Gillars notified the Clerk of the Supreme Court that the Clerk was to receive no papers from me. She advised that Court that she would obtain an attorney of her selection. However she failed to do this and the time for filing a petition for writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court expired. Under the existing statutes and rules of court there is no way to effect a reinstatement of that time limit. It is most unfortunate but I do not know of anything that can be done.

I have in my storage room in my home a great volume of letters which you turned over to us. Please advise me if it is your desire that these letters be returned to you.

I am Thanking you for writing and with kindest regards,

Very truly yours,


James J. Laughlin

JJL:ecb

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HOMER H. GRUENTHER, ASSISTANT

United States Senate

Special Committee to Study Problems of
American Small Business

April 12, 1949

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bender:

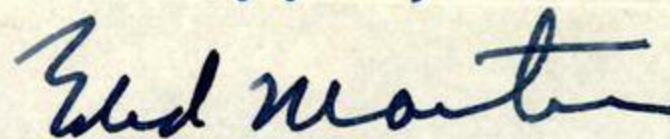
Thank you for your letter of April fourth, in which you express the opinion that Miss Gillars is innocent of the charge of Treason.

As you undoubtedly are aware, the guilt or innocence of a person in a criminal action is not one over which the U. S. Congress has jurisdiction. The Judicial branch of government has the responsibility of seeing that justice is done under the Constitution. If, as you indicate, Miss Gillar's Constitutional rights have been violated, she may appeal the decision to the highest Court in the land. This, I presume, she intends to do.

It was very kind of you to write to me about the matter.

With best wishes, believe me

Sincerely yours,


EDWARD MARTIN

4-0029

LAW OFFICES
JAMES J. LAUGHLIN
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.
NATIONAL 2001

January 18, 1949

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bender:

With further reference to our conversation on the telephone last night, I desire to state that I today talked with Miss Gillars and all arrangements have been made for the opening of the trial Monday, January 24th in United States District Court before Hon. Edward M. Curran.

I have before me report of the various broadcasts to be used in evidence. It is very difficult for me to see how any jury could take the position that these broadcasts were treasonable to the extent that they gave aid and comfort to the enemy. Of course, safeguards will have to be taken in order to get an unbiased and unprejudiced jury insofar as we are able to do so. If you omit from the context the anti-Jewish statements and the anti-Roosevelt statements, clearly there would be nothing in the broadcasts that would approach treason in any respect. Therefore it will be our job to convince the jury that it is not a crime to be anti-Semitic nor is it a crime to be anti-Roosevelt.

Unquestionably the Department of Justice has assembled broadcasts that it deemed most prejudicial to Miss Gillars and those broadcasts which they felt reasonably sure would bring about her conviction. Therefore it occurs to me that there were many other broadcasts that would be highly favorable insofar as our defense is concerned. Miss Gillars is of the view that you have either these broadcasts or the substance of them. If you do have, I would be very much obliged to you to let me hear from you at the earliest possible date.

Thanking you and with kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


James J. Laughlin

JJL:ecb

JAMES J. LAUGHLIN
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.
NATIONAL 2001

February 22, 1949

Dear Mr. Bender:-

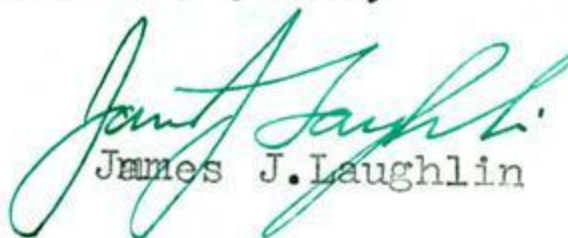
This will introduce Mr. Jason J. Owen who is assisting me in Miss Gillars defense.

It will be appreciated if you will turn the material over to him as I would like to make use of it tomorrow before Miss Gillars takes the stand. I had hoped to come to Harrisburg with Mr. Owen but it is necessary that I talk with Miss Gillars at the jail this afternoon so that I may prepare her for the witness stand. I hope though to see you before the case ends.

Everything is coming along splendidly and we are quite optimistic.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


James J. Laughlin

Mr. Irving F. Bender
3786 Derry St.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Donner
Mr. Currie?

WALTER F. GEORGE, GA., CHAIRMAN
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OWEN BREWSTER, MAINE
EDWARD MARTIN, PA.
JOHN J. WILLIAMS, DEL.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

March 23, 1950

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bender:

This will acknowledge your letter of
March eighteenth.

A letter addressed to the Honorable
Herbert Hoover, Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York City,
should reach him.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


EDWARD MARTIN

WALTER F. GEORGE, GA., CHAIRMAN
TOM CONNALLY, TEX.
HARRY FLOOD BYRD, VA.
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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

November 18, 1952

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Penna.

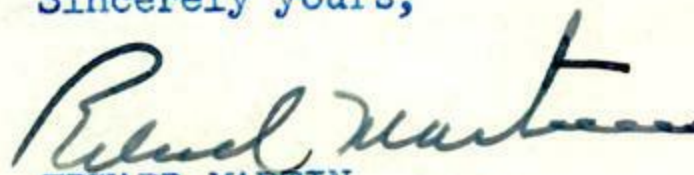
Dear Mr. Bender:

I received your letter of November 12th
and have this day written to Attorney James J.
Laughlin, requesting that he return your correspondence.

I will keep you advised.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


EDWARD MARTIN

JAMES J. LAUGHLIN
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.
NATIONAL 2001

November 21, 1952

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bender:

I have finally located all of the material you sent to me. I am having a colored man pack it carefully and we will ship it to you on November 24th or 25th by freight or express. I am sure you will have it by the end of the week.

Thanking you and with kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



James J. Laughlin

JJL:ecb

COPY

JAMES J. LAUGHLIN
Attorney and Counsellor at Law
National Press Building
Washington, D. C.

National 2001

December 5, 1952

Hon. Edward Martin
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Martin:

Due to the press of work, this is the first opportunity I have had to reply to your letter of November 18, 1952, enclosing letter from Mr. Bender.

We have always appreciated the very fine cooperation that Mr. Bender extended to us in the trial of Mildred Gillars. The material that he forwarded to us was placed in the storage room at my house since I did not have adequate storage in the office.

I have had the material securely packed, and I have left instructions with the colored man to forward the material to Mr. Bender at Harrisburg, and I am sure he will receive it within the next few days.

Your interest in the matter is very much appreciated. Thanking you, and with kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

s/ James J. Laughlin

JJL:FH
copy by sr

February 18, 1959
3786 Derry Street
Harrisburg, Pa.

U.S. Parole Board
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:-

The enclosed "Associated Press" item is a sample of the wanton "propaganda" they have displayed in attempting to belittle, degrade, and disgrace this helpless prisoner. All through the flimsy, home-cooked, so called "treason trial" the Associated Press accentuated every word and item against the defendant and gave nothing to relieve any future situation that was sure to rest heavy in the minds of our society. Small wonder then that this prisoner refused to have her name come up for parole having the knowledge that the ghoulish spirit of the "Associated Press" would stalk every footstep she made outside the gates of Alderson and distort everything she said and did to make life unbearable.

She would have no one to vouch for her since her only living relative is her sister, Mrs. Reid Herrick living in Ashtabula, Ohio. She would not want to impose upon her since the newspaper items would be sure to undermine everything constructive that would be attempted in re-habilitating her.

Take note in the clipping of the defamatory extra remarks, - "Nazi Germany's Axis Sally" and the conclusion, - "no reason for her decision was given". The Associated Press knows "the reason" but they sit in the tyrant's throne and turn thumbs down on one struggling for readjustment.

As members of the United States Parole Board it is naturally your wish that anyone you recommend for this transition be successful in their return to society. ~~I HAVE~~ I have been in constant contact with the prisoner's sister, who has informed me that Miss Gillars believes her best situation will be for a pardon or fulfill her "so-called" debt to society in serving out the unfair sentence, ~~and knowing~~ ^{and knowing} that tremendous pressure was put on "railroading" her in a most unfair trial. I suggest that any future action you take in paroling prisoners be accompanied with instructions for the newspapers to either assist in reestablishing the person or refraining from degrading the subject and make the situation impossible.

Thanking you for your kind attention I am

Respectfully yours,

E. E. ALDERMAN
434 GRAND AVE.
DAYTON, OHIO

Mr. Irwin F. Bender
3786 Derry St.,
Harrisburg, Penna.

Dayton, 5, Ohio
Sept. 6, 1948

Dear Mr. Bender -

Your Sept. 5 special-delivery letter came this morning, and personally I was pleased to hear from you again after so long a time.

I am sorry that you have become involved in the coming trial of "Midge". As for myself I have a strong aversion to my name becoming connected with that case. In the first place, I could not qualify as a witness either for, or against the defendant for I could not identify her by sight. Also I am sure she used an affected-voice to convince listeners she was a girl of about 25 years of age, and I could not identify her by her natural voice.

While it is true I never found error in p.o.w. announcements as to names, ranks, serial numbers, etc., from Midge, or any other announcers from the Tokyo, Berlin, and Rome stations, as later verified by the families of p.o.w. and others, yet this true information was given as "bait" for listeners to believe that the propaganda talks were also more or less true.

So Midge became part of the whole wheel of propaganda from the Berlin station, - - and for the month she broadcasted from the Rome station to our service-men then on the North African coast, she gave purely propaganda talks, urging our men to give themselves up as p.o.w. and be taken to Germany where they would be welcomed by the German girls, who she said, were something special. Of course our men were too smart to fall for that kind of talk, and when they met the Nazis and Italians they gave them a good shellacing.

As for the name Axis Sally, or Mildred Gillars, I never heard of those names until sometime after the war ended. The word, Axis Sally, might have been the invention of some newspaper writer. The principal female announcer from Berlin was always introduced by herself or others, by the simple name of MIDGE. There was an occasional broadcast by another female whose name I do not recall, but I had the impression she was a British subject due to accent of her voice.

No, I do not wish my name to be connected with the coming trial in any way, and I wish to drop out of the lime-light of the generous publicity I got during the war. I thought I did a patriotic job by passing along to many families what I had heard over short-wave about their boys, and without adding any of the propaganda on the same broadcasts following the p.o.w. announcements. Practically all the families sent grateful thanks which I appreciated....and then when the war ended, my interest in this ceased.

I could not testify in behalf of Midge as I did not consider it exactly patriotic for any U.S. citizen to connect herself with the Nazi propaganda machine, and it was my opinion that she hoped the Nazis would win and that her assistance would benefit her for a good official position after victory.

There have been, and still are, too many U.S. citizens who treat their patriotism too lightly.....that goes for some men even in high positions. Midge has probably had time to reflect the error of her rash and hasty decision to collaborate with the Nazis; it probably also touched her vanity to be associated with men high up in that machine.

Yes, Ruth Montgomery of the National Press Association phoned me from Washington the afternoon of Sept. 2. She asked if I thought Axis Sally was a traitor. I told her I knew the principal female announcer from the Berlin station only as Midge, and did not know if they were one and the same person. As to the word traitor, - that was too strong a word for me to use against anybody before trial. I told her what Midge did and she could form her own opinions.... also that I wished no publicity or quotes of my remarks.

Despite this, a local newspaper phoned me last Friday night, Sept. 3, that a press-release had come into their office on a coast to coast teletype connecting my name with this case. I do not know just what this press-report said and if you have a clipping, wish you would mail it to me. Thanks.

I do not wish, or expect to go to Washington. I do not see how I could be of much benefit to the case. Anyway, I am not in the best of health to go.

Thanks for your welfare inquiry about my daughter and soninlaw. I am sorry to say that he died last September from a fungus-growth in his lungs probably contacted on the jungle islands of the Far Pacific. My daughter is now with our aunts in California.

My friendly suggestion is that you withdraw quickly and gracefully from connection with this Midge case, for no matter how careful you may try to be, your remarks or opinions may be mis-quoted to the embarrassment of yourself, your wife, and friends.

Mrs. Alderman and I send you and Mrs. Bender our best regards and hope that we will meet you some day.

Sincerely yours,

E. E. Alderman
E. E. Alderman

E. E. ALDERMAN
434 GRAND AVE. #47
DAYTON, OHIO
ZONE (5)

Jan. 15, 1964

Dear friend Irwin -

I was very pleased to receive your Xmas Bay letter telling in detail how you are having the same experience on short wave as I have had for a month or so. Since the Greenville, N.C., and the Bethany, Ohio V of A stations started operations they have paralyzed the short wave band. I have tried each day on short-wave to get stations which I used to get easily and they are drowned out.

I have been so mad that several times I have almost decided to write the Voice of America or the F.C.C., that there are more "heels" in their outfits than in Russia and Cuba combined.

There are too many Voice of America stations in the first place.... Last night I get 4 or 5 of them in the 9000 k.c. band alone. The Bethany station just took over the wave length of Bern, Switzerland, which until a month ago, always came in clear and strong at 8:30 pm EST for half hour.

But I'm too old to carry on a fight with F.C.C. or write my Senators, and hope you younger fellows will do it. All this has spoiled my pleasure as an almost a shut-in now.

In the first place the Voice of America should have only one transmitter, - like the Europeans have in each country, and this one transmitter should not be located in or near big population centers where so many persons like myself enjoy short-wave, but should be located on the top of some Tennessee mountain, - far from big cities.

These "heels" in Washington never give a thought that 99 percent of the people in Europe are sound asleep after 7 pm our time EST.... If they do, then they are determined that no receptions come from Europe at any hour. I would think the governments in Europe would soon let out a terrible complaint, or among themselves decide to thoroughly "jamb" the Voice of America. And another thing, the junk and baloney on V of A broadcasts is fit only for morons.... in Europe, - and maybe they will get mad too that they cannot listen to anything but V of A.

There are a million "ham" licensed operators in U.S., who now and then like to listen to foreign programs.... Well, they might get mad too and gang up on V of A stations, which I knew they can do by adjusting their own transmitters to V of A wave-lengths with clackity clack stuff and riding their stuff on V of A air-waves..... just like the "hams" in Guantanamo Bay did on the Havana station.... and the ones in Panama did on the Mexico City station a year or so ago. I suppose you understand what I mean.

This V of A outfit has really built up a big organization, complete with a propaganda chief to tell our citizens what a real service they do for U.S.... but really their purpose to keep a lot of bums on the steak and potatoes payroll at the big expense of the U.S. taxpayers.

I do get London and Montreal at the noon hour in the 15,000 kc band for an hour or so.... and then all goes dead. At 10 pm I get Havana fairly good in English language at 6,135 kc. And of all places, for four straight nights about 7 pm I get Peking, China in English language just below Mexico City in the 9000 kc band, but no more; that was two weeks ago. Of course I always get every night Voice of the Andes, from Quito, Educator at top of the 9000 kc band, - clear and

strong as ever... that is the church outfit with their hymns and religious talks. I guess V of A has not yet found a way to drown them out, or take pity because their station is harmless.

After Greenville and Bethany stations started, I dropped down to 6000 kc band and get London, Lisbon, Portugal, and some other S. American station, but they are also jammed now.....and only one in that band I get is Havana at 10 pm EST.

We used to hear Moscow on several wave-lengths, clear and strong, but they are completely gone, I except last night I get them clear and strong about 9 pm EST at 7250 kc approx.

European stations I get regularly, like Madrid, Bonn, Hilversum (Holland), Brussels, Rome, Guatemala City, Buenos Aires, London, Moscow, and Budapest (Hungary) are now completely silent. But as I said, I get London and Montreal at noon hour only. As for Tokyo, I have not received that station since end of war. There are numerous other stations I used to get when conditions were good, that are no more.

I have turned my dial to the 14000 kc band to listen to "ham" operators, but now their microphones seem so bad I cannot understand what is said, unless it happens to be a ham station talking in this area.

Maybe the Bell Telephone Company with their orbiting satellite re-broadcasting of telephone talks and TV programs from Europe, will eventually help the short-wave listeners in U.S. get their programs from Europe, and cancel out what V of A is doing to us.

Your Halierafter set is about the best make for short-wave obtainable, -- and if you can't get short-wave on it, then nobody else can with what they have. As you say, it is a shame to spoil the fun of many people after spending so much on s.w. sets.

I do hope you will continue the battle with these government "heels".... and fully inform your Senators.... and you might even write Pres. Johnson he can save a lot of pay-roll money by firing the whole outfit.

Let me hear from you again soon....

kindest regards,
 Sincerely yours,

Edwin E. Alderman