

Chapter 20

Hermann, Erica, Elsie

Becoming Genteel Liberals

In early 1949 Hermann Field expected to lead another summertime architectural tour of East and Central Europe while Kate took their children to England to visit their ageing grandparents. To Hermann's disappointment there were visa problems for travel into the 'bloc' and, partly because of that, his proposed tour did not attract enough students. Still desiring to see how far postwar reconstruction had progressed, and with Kate determined to visit her parents, Hermann found another way to combine business, his professional sightseeing, and the family's visit to England. He gained an appointment as the American Institute of Architects' representative to a July conference on modern architecture in Italy. After the conference ended he was to join Kate and the children in England and then return to Cleveland and his college position by September.¹

Suddenly, there had to be changes to Hermann's newest plans. First, Kate learned her ill parents immediately needed long-term attention and she left earlier than anticipated. She then decided to stay in England to at least Christmas. The next change came when Herta Field, after frustration in her search for Noel, called Hermann, and then Kate, just before Hermann was scheduled to leave Cleveland for July's meeting in Italy. Herta begged for his help and he flew to Switzerland and agreed to aid the search but asked Herta to allow him to attend the Italian meeting before he began his investigations.² After the Italian conference, he went to Geneva, then to Prague where he joined Herta. While Herta awaited contacts from her and Hermann's Czech friends, Hermann decided to make a short trip to Poland to visit some of the many Polish

Communists he contacted in the late 1930s, the Polish architects he met during his previous postwar tour, and those he encountered during the Italian conference.³ After his Polish friends helped him with needed entry papers, Hermann arrived in Warsaw in mid-August. He stayed with colleagues such as Szyman and Helena Syrkus and took time from his inquiries about Noel to examine and take photos of the “Holistic” reconstructions in the city.⁴

That was a mistake. He was arrested for taking the photographs! He spent an hour in custody but was released and allowed to go the airport to return to Herta in Prague. He thought he was saved because his good Polish friends had intervened when he was arrested. He was wrong. He later concluded they had helped to lure him to Warsaw as part of a well-crafted plot to seize him.⁵ That seems correct because Polish authorities were waiting for him at Warsaw’s airport. He was called aside and then rushed to a waiting-room. He was cuffed, blindfolded, and transported to an isolated secret prison in an old mansion outside Warsaw. As with Noel, no one knew what happened to him. Inquiries by the American government led to responses like those for Noel: “We have no knowledge of Hermann Field.”

A Replay of the Wilderness of ‘Mirrors’

The Poles disguised the Miedzylesie prison where they held Hermann as a large home. Even the American diplomats who frequently were in the area had no idea they were just a few hundred meters away from him. For years, his interrogators demanded he admit he had been Allen Dulles’ man. Hermann grew to hate his most ruthless interrogator. He did not learn until his release that he was the one who finally let American intelligence know that Noel was a captive in Hungary. Hermann may never have realized that man, Josef Swiatlo, was part of the “wilderness of mirrors,” a double agent.

The most credible story of Swiatlo's career has him simultaneously being the chief of Poland's internal security apparatus and a British, then American asset.⁶ Driven by fear of discovery and of reprisals from prisoners he had tortured, Swiatlo defected to the West in December 1953 while Hermann remained imprisoned. In exchange for information about Eastern-bloc activities, the United States granted Swiatlo asylum but waited nine months after he was brought to America before making his defection public knowledge.

Meanwhile, during Herman's some five years in his dungeon, he was subjected to relentless interrogations and threatened with dire tortures. He was fearful as he could hear the cries and sobs of those who were being physical abused. Perhaps not treated as badly as Noel, Hermann's "easier" time meant near starvation, suffering from extreme cold and heat, having to stand all day, and the ever-effective sleep deprivation during his first weeks of interrogation. After that, isolation, being kept in airless cells once used as dog kennels, and poor food led to severe bouts of depression. His muscles withered, he developed eye problems and ulcers. Conditions were so bad that he once tried to hang himself. He also went on life-threatening hunger strikes to end his misery or to wring concessions from his captors.

Some of his interrogators thought he should be allowed to starve himself to death because he would be worthless as a witness in any political trial, but others like Swiatlo thought he should be kept alive. Hermann was force-fed and when he tried to bite the tube inserted into his throat his jailers wrapped him in a strait jacket. During his first year of imprisonment, he was so isolated that all he could do to keep his sanity was to build a model of a perfect new Holistic Warsaw out of straw from his bedding. Although the Poles eventually placed him in a cell with another prisoner, it took some time for the two to trust each other enough to begin writing what became acclaimed and widely read books.

According to Hermann his worst tortures, and the only ones he wrote about, were the total isolation, the silence, and the absence of activity. Hermann later admitted that he had at times been ready to confess to anything his inquisitors desired; but they never told him what to say. He was forced to write the usual endless number of life histories and he listed the hundreds of people he had aided while he worked on Czech relief in 1939---but he never falsely admitted he was a spy.⁷ However, he did come to believe what his interrogators were telling him about the anti-Communist movement in America. He had little choice but to accept the exaggerated claims of executions and imprisonment and predictions that he would become a target of extreme McCarthyism if he returned to America.

There were other severe psychological pressures. He was told he would never be released and that his wife and family had abandoned him. One of Swiatlo's cruelest psychological gambits (and an indicator he was linked to a network in the United States) was his telling Hermann that Kate, his wife, was "being taken care of" by Herbert Hunsaker, the dean of Cleveland College. Hunsaker was helping Kate, but not in the way Swiatlo hinted. With Kate in England, Hunsaker had been given the power of attorney over Hermann's home, property, and Cleveland bank account. He also was aiding Kate in recruiting important figures, such as Senator Robert Taft, to pressure the State Department to "do something" to find her husband.⁸

During his years of imprisonment Hermann's personality, as well as his physical appearance, changed. He became withdrawn and severely anxious. He lost weight, was slumped-over so much that he looked much shorter and had the appearance of an aged man, not a forty-year-old.⁹

More "Mirrors" and Hermann's Big Decision

Despite the State Department and the CIA's continued efforts to locate and free all the Fields, it took Stalin's death in 1953 to allow the Polish regime enough latitude to begin considering releasing Hermann. After a few months of better food and treatment, the Poles began the process of freeing him. In September 1954, the government offered Hermann his complete freedom and the option to live in their country. To the surprise of his jailors, he did not immediately accept the offer. He asked for time to think. He suffered from what happens to many held in isolation, a dire fear of leaving their confines, and a pathological concern about meeting new people---the press was especially frightening. Accepting that he had no choice but to leave his jail and move into an apartment the government provided, Hermann thought of remaining in the East but wanted Kate to join him in Warsaw while he was recovering and considering the Poles' offer.

Unlike what Noel would do, Hermann made sure the representative of the American State Department was immediately notified of his possible release and location. The Americans alerted Kate, who had remained in England with her children and her parents. They told her where Hermann was, his proposed release, and his request for her to immediately come to Poland. Although deeply committed to her husband, Kate decided not to go. She and Hermann's sister Elsie Field, who was with her in London, worried they would be kidnapped if either of them entered any of the Communist countries. Although Kate did not rush to Warsaw, she sent Hermann letters, lobbied the State Department and Britain's government, and prepared to go to Switzerland to be close to him if he was released. While awaiting word from Kate, Hermann almost accepted the offer of free housing, a lifetime job as an architect, and free medical care for him and his family.¹⁰

Meanwhile, word of Hermann's possible return to the West reached others, people who had no fears of the Communists. Hermann soon had some unexpected and unfriendly visitors. They

did their best to convince him to accept Poland's generous offers and remain in the East. The most prominent visitor was Hans Siebert of Germany, Kate's brother-in-law.¹¹ Priscilla Thornicroft, Kate's sister, had married that important German Communist and moved with him to the Soviet-controlled region of Germany. The Thornicroft's and Fields had not heard from her for years, but the Communist apparatus knew where she was. The Soviets contacted her when they feared Hermann might issue statements damaging to Poland's Communist regime. While Priscilla began making long-distance phone calls to her mother to urge the family to have Hermann accept the Poles offers, her husband made a hasty trip across the German border to visit Hermann in Warsaw. Siebert made the journey to quiet Hermann and, importantly, to clear his own name. He feared the East Germans suspected him of deviationism because he had met Noel Field in England in 1946.¹² The Poles found additional helpers to convince Hermann to renounce the West including Monica Felton, the British writer and COMINFORM stalwart.

The Poles almost succeeded in converting Hermann. In addition to the attractiveness of the guaranteed work and housing, Hermann had what his wife Kate and his sister Elsie later called a "psychosis" about returning to the West. His captors had filled him with a fear of McCarthyism, so much so that he was convinced the CIA would abduct him. His anxieties rubbed-off on his wife and sister, but with a twist. Kate and Elsie had suspicions that Soviet agents might kidnap them if the Poles freed Hermann.¹³

A Thornicroft Keeps the Faith

A Communist threat in England was a real, and immediate problem. It came from Christopher Thornicroft, Kate's radical brother. She eventually described him as having become worse than the totalitarians in the East who had so harmed her husband. At the news of Hermann's release Christopher stormed into Kate's London house and demanded she make sure that Hermann did

nothing to harm the revolution. Christopher was emotional about Hermann's possible denunciation of the system--and more. Because of membership in the Communist Party, the British government had made sure both he and his brother William were fired from their sensitive engineering jobs, and they feared imprisonment.

Elsie Doob, Hermann, and Noel's sister, had cut -short the European vacation with her husband Joe and rushed to help Kate. She became so afraid of Christopher and England's Party she convinced Kate to make a formal request to Scotland Yard for protection.¹⁴ The Yard received another request from Kate: She asked for protection from the United States' CIA. As well, the two women began to worry about more than their own safety: Would the Poles arrange an 'accident' to keep Hermann silent if he chose to return to the West? ¹⁵

Freedom at a Price, the Poles Yield

After regaining his strength at a rest home eighteen miles from Warsaw and after some Polish doctors he trusted convinced him that he did not require operations for his intestinal or eye problems, and after the United States' diplomats gave him more assurances of safety, Hermann decided he was ready to leave Poland. He had much on his agenda. He had recovered enough and felt confident enough to make demands on his former jailers. He told them he required reparations payments, insisted on punishment of his most brutal interrogators, and demanded the authorities give his former cellmate a fair trial. He also wanted to know about Noel's future. If they did not bend to his demands, he said, he would tell the press about his horrible treatment.

Surprisingly, the Polish officials agreed to much on his list. The American State Department's men in Poland believed they gave-in because Hermann did agree to temper any criticisms of the regime or his treatment. Hermann did not get all that he asked for, however. The Polish authorities informed him that Noel and Herta were alive and would be released, but

instead of \$600,000, ¹⁶ \$500,000 was placed into Hermann's account in the Polish national bank, and then transferred to Zurich. Hermann may not have realized that by adding those funds to his monies in America he was close to being a millionaire.

Then, the Poles did something more bizarre than restating the old accusation that Hermann had been an American spy. Instead of issuing an admission of their mistake in jailing Hermann, the Polish government insisted that while Hermann had been falsely imprisoned it had been the result of Allen Dulles' men's deviousness. The Poles stated Dulles had attempted to destabilize and embarrass the Communist nations by circulating false rumors about all the Fields.¹⁷

Where is Home to Be?

Hermann gained more strength and was becoming less emotionally unstable but he remained unsure of where to go when the Poles released him. He was still afraid Western or Soviet intelligence agents might kidnap him, or that he might be imprisoned if he settled anywhere in the West.¹⁸ Despite his near paranoia about being seized by the CIA, or Soviet intelligence, he informed his wife Kate that Switzerland or England were now high on his list of possible destinations—but oddly, so was America. Putting the United States on his list was strange because Hermann continued to have suspicions about American intentions. Were the State Department's men in Poland providing so much help because they wanted him as a source for the anti-Communist investigations? So, he was cautious in dealing with the Americans. He never told the State Department's representatives he had considered staying in Poland or another Eastern country. He also informed one American official that he refused to give returning to America any serious consideration unless the United States guaranteed "full immunity".

Although undecided on a final destination, Kate's phone calls from England convinced Hermann to take a first step, to go to Switzerland. But he refused to leave Warsaw unless he had

protection against kidnapping by the CIA, or any confrontations with the press. He also considered coordinating his departure with Noel's hoped-for release. But, when Elsie told him of the results of her long-distance calls to Noel, Hermann decided not to wait. Elsie informed him that Noel seemed beyond help. He and Herta were psychologically distressed and seemed determined to stay in Hungary, she reported. Finally, a Swiss architect friend, Hans Breckbuler, was located who agreed to accompany Hermann on his flights to Geneva. As had Kate and Elsie, Hans found Hermann emotionally unstable.

Safely at the Swiss airport, Hermann, Kate, and Elsie eluded reporters (by means Elsie said were "unQuakerlike"), spent a day in a Geneva hotel, then the trio secretly boarded a train for the mountains. They took a cart to a small ski village a few miles from Lugano, his parents Herbert and Nina's old vacation spot, and one of the OSS' bases during World War II. Kate kept the Gandrois location a secret, even from the American State Department. Hermann's correspondence was marked with only, "The Swiss Mountains."

It took some time for Hermann and Kate to become reacquainted and for Elsie to help them shed both of their deep "psychological problems." Elsie also helped with the arrangements for Hermann's sons to spend Christmas with their parents. Elsie would soon do more for Herman. She demanded and was allowed an interview with Swiatlo after she returned to England. Armed with a long list of questions Hermann provided she attempted to discover the details of Hermann's imprisonment.¹⁹ While the interview was being conducted the CIA decided to use the information they gained from Swiatlo to launch Operation Spotlight, a propaganda campaign that included sending balloons loaded with leaflets into Poland.

An Expatriate's Life Is Not for Me, Perhaps

While in the mountain resort Hermann worked on his and his cellmate's manuscripts. He also honed his old architectural skills. He considered setting-up a Holistic architectural firm in Zurich or Geneva as he believed his father's reputation, his childhood residence in Switzerland, and the sympathy aroused by his imprisonment would convince the Swiss to grant him permanent residency. Kate, however, lobbied to leave for either America or England, although she still had worries about political trends in the United States. There was another consideration. Important to her and Hermann, the children were settled into their English schools. So, in February 1955, after three months in Switzerland, Hermann and Kate left to live with her elderly leftist family in England.

Hermann did well in London. He was gaining weight, doing additional rewriting of his manuscripts, and was making a few contacts with American architect acquaintances and exploring the possibility of returning to his Holistic Calling in England or America. After two years in England Hermann was still hesitant about going home, but the need for Kate to return to America to prevent losing her citizenship and the discrediting of Senator Joseph McCarthy, partly because of their friend Edward R. Murrow's crusades, tipped the scales.

In 1956, the question for Hermann became, where in America? New York or Brooklyn were possibilities because the Raymond architectural firm where he had worked was in the area, and some distant members of the Field clan still lived close-by. Cleveland was also an option as Hermann had some loyal friends working at his old college. But his new American destination would prove to be the same as his mothers in 1922, Cambridge, Massachusetts. The town had friends and memories that fit Hermann and Kate's needs, it had a unique liberal culture, and it was close to Hermann's beloved Shirley farm.

Rejoining the Liberal Elite

As the family left England, Hermann was physically improved but Kate worried he might never be able to work. He was still highly emotional and made jerky body movements. So, she closely guarded the family's large savings. The trip to America on the Queen Mary was made in tourist class, something none of the Fields had done before. Then, friends began to help. A wealthy matron lady provided the family with rent-free lodgings in the up-scale Beacon Hill district of Boston.²⁰ The fifth-floor "attic" apartment was at 17 Brimmer Street and overlooked the Charles River. It was in walking distance of Hermann's family home in Cambridge, Susan Clark's old flat, and Harvard University. Kate and Hermann soon decided to make the apartment their permanent urban residence, partly because they were never asked to pay more than half of what others did for similar accommodations in such grand historic townhomes.

The apartment was quite livable, but Hermann and Kate regarded the Shirley farm as their real home and as their special retreat where Hermann could prepare his books for publication and focus on his physical and emotional recovery. He seems to have done a bit more planning work for Cleveland College, but never thought of returning there. Kate and Hermann lived frugally, but family traditions led to one expensive outlay: The children were enrolled in the Boston areas' private, not public, schools. Later, one went to Vermont's new Woodstock Country School, an updated version of Carmelita Hinton's progressive-education Putney School. Woodstock benefited from Rockefeller support and from having students such as a child of Pete Seeger, the famous left-wing folk singer.

The Other Susan and the Genteel Establishment

Susan Clarke (1879-1968), the generous old woman who owned the Brimmer Street townhome (and the one next door) may have helped finance the children's private schooling. She certainly had social connections that could ease acceptance at such schools. Susan had historic

roots in America's elite liberal culture, ones much deeper than the Fields'. Her ancestors were among the first migrants to New England and succeeding family members became some of the most influential men and women in Massachusetts, and the nation. The Unitarian minister James Freeman Clarke, Susan's grandfather (1810-1888), was among the most radical Unitarians of his era. He founded a Unitarian church in Boston that became a center of what would later be called "social gospel" reform. He was a Boston Latin and Harvard graduate, a member of the Transcendental Club, an associate of Ralph Waldo Emerson and his friends, and he had links to Brook Farm, the great utopian socialist experiment of his day. He was a Progressive educator two generation before the term became popular, an advocate for advanced education for women, and a supporter of the mainstream anti-slavery movements. In addition to all that, he became a noted author, a Harvard professor, and an internationally recognized expert on comparative religion.²¹

Eliot Channing Clarke, James's son, and Susan's father also was a "Harvard man" and then a Massachusetts Institute of Technology student. He became famous and wealthy as one of the first scientific and Efficiency civil engineers and was an example of how old-line Bostonians adjusted to the new industrial era. He founded a successful engineering firm, designed Boston's new drainage and sewer systems, and modernized many of the state's manufacturing plants. After taking-over the several family homes on Brimmer Street, he became a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and somewhat of a world traveler. His destinations included Switzerland where he and his daughter Susan found something of a second home in Rüslikon, a pastoral Zurich suburb. Both he and Susan met the Fields during their pre-World War I visits. Elsie Field became a favorite of theirs.

Susan was also a modern liberal. Well educated in Boston's private schools, she picked the Quaker, later self-proclaimed non-denominational Seven Sister Bryn Mawr as her college, graduating in 1901 at age twenty-two.²² She majored in mathematics and chemistry with additional classes in ancient and modern languages. She followed that with graduate study at the Walter Cannon family-related Simmons College where Noel Field took his social work courses. Although a Unitarian and a Progressive, Susan did not become a scientist or a social worker. She spent much of her life as a foreign language teacher although she inherited the family townhomes and fortune and became noted as an art collector. She never married and devoted much of her life to civic affairs.

Besides being a part of the Boston-Cambridge genteel social set and the American network in Switzerland, Susan had direct connections to the Fields. She was able to travel to Europe into her seventies, including another visit to Switzerland in the mid-1950s, just as Hermann was released. Still in contact with Elsie Field, she made that generous 17 Brimmer Street offer to Kate and Hermann. After the Fields settled-in the apartment, Susan became close to them as Hermann readjusted to freedom. Living next door to Hermann, she was "Aunt" Susan to the children and Hermann and Kate helped care for her after she became bed-ridden in her eighties.

Hermann and Kate became so attached to the Brimmer townhomes they tried to purchase them when Susan passed-on in 1968. They lost-out. Ironic, given the Clark and Field's now atheistic orientation, '15' and '17' were purchased by the Church of the Advent.²³

Hermann as an Anti-communist

In the 1950s, Hermann was no long a fellow traveler, but he did not hide his continued leftist social and economic beliefs while turning against Communism He publicly admitted he had been naïve and, although he had told his captors that he would remain silent in exchange for his

1954 release, he began to openly criticize Communism, as both philosophy and practice. It was “totalitarian” he told the famed Drew Pearson while a guest on his television show. Statements such as that helped Hermann to remain low on the American government’s list of possible security risks. Some concern was caused by Hermann’s declining to appear before any congressional committees, however. He explained that his testimony might raise international tensions and lead to punishment of people he had known in Europe. That satisfied the FBI. It ended its mail watch but kept a minimal surveillance of Hermann’s activities through the 1950s. The bureau did so only because they needed to see if he had been turned into a Soviet intelligence asset during his imprisonment. In 1999, near the end of their lives, Hermann and Kate went much further in their denunciation of Soviet style Communism in their book, *Trapped in the Cold War*.²⁴

Being Modern “Genteels”

Well before then Hermann and Kate had rejoined the ranks of America’s Eastern social and political liberal elite. With friends like Susan Clarke, the reentry had been quick and easy. The couple became known as a modern version of his Progressive father, not an ideological Noel. Kate returned to Medford, Massachusetts for a year of study at the elite Seven Sister, Smith College where, along with a stint at the radical Highlander Folk School, she had studied during her youthful 1930s radical period. After the new year at Smith, Kate became, apparently not by accident, an administrator at Harvard University. She took some time-off from that job, but only to aid her cancer-ridden father in England, and she gave birth to a girl in 1958.

Hermann remained at home, but soon became a recognized part of the American literary world. His sensitive 1958 book, *Angry Harvest*, made the best seller list, received world-wide critical acclaim, was quickly made into a prime-time television production by the celebrated

David Susskind, and brought-in handsome financial returns as did a second work, *Duck Lane*. In the 1980s, *Harvest* was turned into an internationally recognized film.²⁵

Returning to Architecture

Hermann's articles about conservation and planning also brought him professional notice. Best of all, in 1961 he found an architectural-planning position at Tufts College located just a few miles from the family's Boston apartment. It was another chance to be Holistic. Tufts was a near ideal place for Hermann as the college's and his values initially matched. Universalists, who held more theologically liberal beliefs than the Quakers or Unitarians founded Tufts in the mid-Nineteenth Century. That investment was a gamble because Universalism's adherents were not from the rich Boston merchant elite that led the Unitarian's battle against Congregationalism. The Universalists were humble country people so financing a college, even in the Nineteenth Century, had been burdensome. Despite benefactions from the circus magnate P.T. Barnum, Tufts struggled through the Nineteenth and much of the Twentieth Century.

Because its first leaders had the spirit of Cleveland College's Herbert C. Hunsaker, the institution kept tuitions low as it tried to help students who could not afford, or be admitted to, Harvard or other Ivy League schools. Tuft's liberal orientation deepened in the 1960s and 1970s, even as it was turning from being a small undergraduate college with appended fledgling professional schools into more of a Flexner-like multi-purpose university. As the school was changing, the Universalists and Unitarians merged into one denomination.

Hermann's initial responsibility at Tufts was for the design of a new, huge community medical center that was part of a larger urban redevelopment plan partially funded by a federal urban-renewal program. The university wanted to use the program to up-grade its old medical school and Hermann hoped the center would become an example of the merits of his Holistic

approach. ²⁶ The assignment included trips to Europe and Israel to study hospital design. That reignited the FBI's interest and concern. The bureau became very worried when, during a 1964 trip, Hermann crossed the border into Hungary although he had not informed the State Department of his intention to do so. He met briefly with Noel, despite his anger at Noel's defection causing problems for the family, then returned to Boston without commenting on Noel's decision to remain behind the Iron Curtain.²⁷ Hermann and Kate would travel to Budapest several times after that.²⁸

Mellowing

Despite the suspicions raised by the excursion into Hungary Hermann and Kate were no longer close to being true Reds. They went in a different ideological direction than Noel or some of the members of the Clark and Hinton families who had been such good friends of the Fields. In fact, after waiting until they thought it was safe to do so, Hermann and Kate began making additional public warnings about totalitarianism. As a result, they were regarded as quite fashionable elite-leftish liberals who maintained some connection to Hermann's Quaker roots but were more known as atheists.

Hermann's new reputation aided his long-held desire to teach. The entrepreneurial president at Tufts gave Hermann what he had sought since his days as a student at Harvard: He was given a chance to teach Holistic architecture, city planning, and conservation at the college. As part of the new president's drive to turn Tufts into a true modern university many new schools and departments were established and nurtured. His plan was to make Tufts into yet another example of an urban applied-knowledge center with programs that would attract more and better and higher tuition-paying students. As with other aspiring universities of the time, Tufts' religious origins slid into the background. ²⁹

In 1973, Hermann received the go-ahead to establish a new self-contained and largely self-financed program. Hermann overcame some of his qualms about “entrepreneurial universities” as Tuft’s leaders became more and more ambitious and moved the college away from its egalitarianism. As he sought to become a major figure in urban and environmental education and project-design Hermann developed into a skilled grantsman while his students learned to merge art and environment to create not just a functional building but a living “place.” His visions extended to hospital design, leading to his work, “Evaluation of Hospital Design: A Holistic Approach.”³⁰ Hermann did more than teach in those years. He became part of a team of architects that designed several important Boston area construction projects (even the city’s Chinatown). He also became an influential presence in Boston and Massachusetts’ governmental programs for the environment, urban transportation, public housing, and historic preservation. His environmental work took him around the world. In addition, Canada called on his architectural talents.³¹

Despite his professional success, Hermann had not discarded his youthful idealism. Arthur Schlesinger Jr., the Harvard-trained biographer of John F. Kennedy and Office of Strategic Services man who had questioned Noel and Hermann’s grasp of reality now called Hermann an “architectural visionary.” Schlesinger added something to that, however. He complained that Hermann continued to refuse to see anything fundamentally wrong with Soviet life and policies-- despite Hermann’s criticism of totalitarianism.³² Schlesinger was not quite on the mark. Herman had become a committed and realistic moderate liberal. For example, neither he nor his children joined the radical movements of the 1960s.

Despite his position at Tufts Hermann had not abandoned his love for rural life. He made the old Shirley farm, the one Nina had used to aid the Spanish Civil War refugees in the 1930s,

into a showplace for rural environmentalism, not a training ground for radicals as the Clarks had done at their Trapelo enclave during the 1930s. Reflecting Hermann and Kate's beliefs, on Hermann's death in 2001 the family made the two-hundred-acre farm part of a natural conservancy.

More Reformed Liberals: Erica and Elsie Field and Joe Doob

Hermann and Kate Field were not the only family members to retreat from their radicalism and turn to a middle-class life. Noel's foster daughter Erica Glaser Wallach moved further away from her communist roots than others. Noel and Herta had rescued Erica from the Spanish Civil War refugee camps in 1939 when she suffered from typhoid fever and was in such bad condition she could not accompany her parents to Switzerland where they applied for refuge in England to live with their son. Erica was a youthful Communist and gladly helped Noel and the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) while in Switzerland. As the war ended, she went with the OSS to Germany but also served the Communist Party until she became alienated after the Party protested her fraternizing with Americans. She met, married, and had children with Robert Wallach, a young American officer but she remained in Europe because the United States government refused to admit her. In 1949, she and Robert and their two children lived in one room in a country hotel in Switzerland, surviving on Robert's \$120.00 a month GI Bill student payment with Erica fearful of disappearing as had the Fields.³³ Seized by the German Communists in 1950 as she searched for Noel and Hermann, she escaped execution but suffered years of brutal imprisonment.

Erica was released from the Soviet's Siberian Vorkuta gulag in early 1955. It held thousands of political prisoners working in mines under conditions so brutal the prisoners attempted a revolt in 1953, one that was cruelly suppressed. On her release, Erica was near death and so

emotionally depressed that to avoid international embarrassment the Soviet government kept her in a hospital for several months. While Erica was hospitalized the Soviets made another attempt to turn a disaster into a triumph. Noel Field was asked to contact her and convince her to make Hungary her home. As Noel was attempting to arrange citizenship for her, she realized her husband would not allow her children to go to the East. She refused Noel's offer. When she left the hospital in October 1955 she hoped to immediately fly to the United States. That was rather courageous as Erica had never been to America and she was not sure if the children she had not seen for more than five years would remember her. As well, she was uncertain that she and Robert could rebuild their marriage. Erica should not have worried. Robert had remained a devoted husband.

Soon after Erica had been seized in 1950, Robert returned from Europe with the children, Robert, and Madeleine and settled in his old family home in Virginia. While building a career as a successful and important Washington-based international banker he tirelessly used his and his family's influence and funds to convince the American government to do everything possible to locate and free Erica and the Fields.³⁴ He spent days at the Soviet embassy pleading for information about his wife. Robert's efforts may have been the decisive factor in the United States government exploring the possibility of offering a million-dollar ransom payment for the Fields.³⁵

Robert's influence was limited, frustratingly so, before and after Erica's prison release. The situation became more than frustrating in 1955, it became bizarre. After Erica gained her freedom the American government again refused her an entry permit because she was not a citizen, despite her marriage, and because she was under suspicion as a Soviet agent. Erica did not want for care, however. Robert and her family in England provided for her after she moved

from West Germany to her parents' home. Exasperated by the State Department's seemingly final negative decision, Robert attempted to have Erica admitted under a special defectors ruling. That faced opposition from the FBI and CIA, both thinking Erica had remained a faithful Communist and perhaps was given her freedom only because she pledged to act as an agent.³⁶ After much effort, Robert found an unexpected congressional ally, Representative Francis E. Walter of Pennsylvania. Walter was one of the most aggressive American anti-Communist legislators of the era and was the co-author of the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 that limited immigration and eased the deportation of foreign radicals. Influenced by Robert, Walters worked some political miracles and arranged a special act of congress to admit Erica. She arrived in the United States in late 1957, two years after she was freed.³⁷

Erica quickly repaid Francis Walter. She testified about her ordeal in a public congressional hearing, describing in frightening detail her gruesome tortures and the brutality of the gulag system. Unlike Noel, who forgave his captors, she made no excuses for them.³⁸ She never suggested it had been a mistake on the part of well-intentioned comrades. T

here were limits to her frankness, however. During a 1958 interview with the FBI, she admitted she had been involved in "some intelligence activities for the Soviets in the past" but, perhaps afraid of deportation, denied she had ever been a Communist.³⁹ For unknown reasons, the FBI did not follow-up on that fabrication. That allowed Erica to build a new life and to elaborate on her congressional testimony a decade later in, *Light at Midnight*, a widely read volume. Its title was a clever and informative counterpoint to *Darkness at Noon*, the classic 1941 denunciation of Stalin's bloody purges of the 1930s. But Erica had not become a public figure and she concentrated on her immediate family. There are indications that she decided to break-off contact with most of the Fields. For example, unlike Noel's sister and brother, she

never traveled to Hungary to see Noel or Herta. She did try to protect the Fields and Clarks, however. She told the FBI that she never knew if Sali and Jean Lieberman were Communists and avoided naming Noel and Herta as ones.⁴⁰

Erica's decision to cast-off much of her past helped her to settle into a more than middle-class dignified life in Warrenton, a quiet and lovely Virginia town. She quickly rebuilt her motherly relationship with the children. Ironically, her husband's Hopefield farm-estate that dated from the mid-Nineteenth Century was only a few miles from one of the nation's largest radio-intelligence intercept sites. It was also close to one of the secret underground bunker systems built to house government officials in case of a Soviet atomic attack. As had Hermann and Kate, Erica became a part of elite liberal America. But she and her husband were more restrained than the Fields. The Wallach's were like early Twentieth Century Progressive reformers rather than liberal leftists. Erica taught languages at the local fashionable private high school for two decades and she and Robert became central to the area's philanthropic institutions. Erica also became a part of the Virginia social elite while her children became Ivy Leaguers with their own children marrying into such capitalistic families as the Lee Higginsons.

Elsie, My Cherished Daughter, and Her Famous Husband

In the late 1940s Elsie, Noel and Hermann's sister⁴¹, returned to Illinois after helping Noel with the Unitarian Service Committee's European medical programs. By then, she had given up her medical practice as an allergist to care for her two older children and a newborn. That calm life was interrupted by Noel and Hermann's 1949 disappearance. Her travels to find them consumed over four years. After that, she and her husband Joe Doob became examples of young radicals

mellowing over time and becoming, like Hermann and Kate Field, respected but a-bit-pink liberals.⁴²

From Radical to Pink Liberal

Elsie Field Doob was a ‘thoroughly modern’ young woman of her generation, but her Quaker background and her mother’s goals kept her from being anything like a “flapper.” Instead of dancing and going to speakeasies, after a Seven Sister education she concentrated on her medical career. Joe Doob, her husband, was also a product of liberal education as a boy and he also became very modern.. Joe was a standout among his generation of academics who were fulfilling the dreams of those who had created America’s research universities at the turn of the Twentieth Century.

After Nina Field brought her children to the United States in 1922, the sixteen-year-old Elsie entered the prestigious Cambridge, Massachusetts’ Latin High School where she excelled in science as well as in the liberal arts. Her interest in science was intensified during a family 1925 summer vacation . She worked for one of the professors at the Woods Hole marine research institute, an experience that reinforced her goal of becoming a veterinarian. Elise soon decided she was not going to be just a housewife and mother. She was determined to be a fully independent woman. Her 1925 post-high school around-the-world trip, which included a stop in poverty-filled China, changed her career goal. It also intensified the political and social radicalism she shared with her family. She decided she would focus on helping humans, but not, as did many girls from elite backgrounds, by becoming a social worker at a settlement house.

In 1926, when she entered the elite Seven Sister Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts Elsie aimed at a medical career and took as many pre-med courses as possible. Important to her life at Radcliff, the school’s national student body gave her the opportunity to

join a network of elite liberals, including young ladies connected to the nation's leading Unitarian families, such as the Wheelers of Baltimore. But Elise was already beyond liberalism and, like the Clarks, was becoming an activist. She was involved in the Sacco-Vanzetti protests and openly espoused socialist ideas.⁴³ Then, according to Noel, sometime in the late 1920s she joined the Communist Party, keeping her card until World War II.

Elsie's independent streak was evidenced by her decision to move away from home. Unlike her brothers, Noel and Hermann, she did not stay in her mother's house, at least during her last two years at Radcliffe. She did allow Nina to finance another European visit, however. Elsie then followed her dream and enrolled in Harvard Medical School, a rare thing for a girl, or for Harvard, in the early 1930s. But for a moment it seemed Elise was not going to be a thoroughly modern feminist woman. In 1931, at twenty-five (an advanced age for marriage for most women of the era, but not for the Seven Sisters "girls") and still not having her ticket to economic independence, her M.D., Elsie married a young man four years her junior.

The couple was an unusual match. In addition to being younger than Elsie, Joseph Doob was not a Quaker. He had a Jewish background. Joe's beliefs and class background matched Elsie's, however. He was from a well-to-do family, had attended New York City's progressive liberal-Jewish Ethical Culture School, was an intellectual who excelled as an undergraduate at Harvard, and, if later FBI informants are believed, was as or more of a radical than Elsie. His politics did not prevent Joe from doing as well in the humanities as in his mathematical statistics major. He earned coveted fellowships for advanced study in mathematics, the first at Columbia University in New York City, his hometown.

Continuing to be a Thoroughly Modern Woman

Some of her friends had worried that Elsie would become just a wife and mother after she married. In 1931 it seemed she might. After dropping out of Harvard's medical school she accompanied Joe to New York City and was willing to live far below her middle-class standards. Neither Elsie nor Joe seems to have called on their parents for much financial help. The couple's day to day existence relied on Joe's small fellowship income and odd jobs such as baby-sitting. Elise had not given-in to love, however. Hesitantly accepting some financial help from her mother Nina, Elsie enrolled at Columbia University's medical school and, after four years, completed her M.D. courses. As she had been at Radcliffe and Harvard, Elsie was a standout at Columbia. In her first year she was a joint author on a cancer research paper, and she graduated with honors. Meanwhile, Joe was showing he was going to become one of America's leading mathematicians and it appeared certain he would move to a faculty post at an Ivy League university after completing his graduate studies in advanced mathematical statistics. Joe published a major paper in 1934 and a bright future seemed assured.⁴⁴ Then, the great economic depression altered the couple's future. Joe was offered a job in 1935, but in the far-off University of Illinois and at its semi-rural Urbana campus (140 miles away from a large city). With so many young academics unemployed, and believing the university was intent on building a strong mathematics program, Joe accepted the offer--despite Elsie needing additional years of training before she could practice medicine. Elsie agreed to go to Urbana---but with caveats. She demanded to be able to finish her training at hospitals linked to Columbia University. She spent much of the next three years completing her medical residency in New York City. Joe accepted this early version of the modern two-professional marriage and the separations they demanded. The marriage held together, partly because Elise promised she

would go west after her residency. She fulfilled the promise, becoming a practicing internist and allergist in Urbana in 1938.

There were good reasons for Elsie r moving west rather than Joe returning to New York City. There were still few jobs for academics and Joe seemed likely to be promoted and awarded tenure at Urbana because he was building a solid mathematics reputation in Illinois and the nation. But Joe was also gaining a reputation as a radical (perhaps as a Communist), a reputation that persisted for many years. He and Elsie held meetings on the Spanish Civil War in their Urbana home and one FBI source reported the meetings had been linked to Party recruitment efforts. Joe also gained a reputation as an apologist for Soviet Russia and its policies, including the Hitler-Stalin Pact. Elsie soon made her progressive beliefs evident when she became a founder of what became Urbana's first Planned Parenthood chapter and openly advocated preventing the creation of "unwanted" new humans.

Although a half-continent away from their families, Elsie and Joe were not isolated. Nina Field visited, the couple vacationed in Cambridge and New York City, and Elsie corresponded with her brothers, including Noel while he was in Europe. There was a very important vacation from Urbana in 1941: Joe was awarded a fellowship at Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study, the center of cutting-edge mathematics in the United States, if not the world. That experience reinforced his determination to work on abstract probability questions rather than being an applied statistician. Luckily, his home department and university did not demand he become a revenue producing grantsman obtaining funds for practical applications. However, Joe's talents were called-on for applied work during World War II. Although he was a leading statistician whose mentor at Harvard had long been and continued to an advisor to America's codebreakers, and while Illinois had trained several of the nation's leading cryptanalysts, Joe was brought to

Washington in 1942 to work on naval explosive-mine problems. He seems to have also worked in Guam. Perhaps it was the rumors about his being ideologically on-the-left that kept the statistician-hungry codebreaking agencies from commandeering him.

It was also during the 1940s that Elsie finally consented to start a family, but she continued working as a physician in Urbana after the first two children were born. Then, in 1948, when the third child arrived as Elsie was approaching forty-two, she decided to become, at least for a time, a homemaker. She put-aside her full-time hospital work. Perhaps to Elsie's surprise, Joe always pitched-in with childcare and house work although he was very busy with his teaching and research. In fact, although in Urbana, Joe was becoming an academic star. He became a major player in his field's associations, and he was asked to review major works such as Claude Shannon's groundbreaking papers and books on the mathematical theory of communications (and cryptanalysis some believe). After his 1953 publication of *Stochastic Processes*, a work that was a foundation piece in his field of probability, Joe was regarded as a founder of modern statistics.⁴⁵

First Moves Away From Youthful Radicalism

After World War II both Joe and Elsie seem to have pulled back from their activism and radical ideology. Noel reported that Elsie did not renew her Party membership. FBI informants were stating that Joe had stopped making any comments critical of the United States. By 1950, there were reports that Joe was making anti-Soviet statements. As well, there are no indications that either Elsie or Joe participated in anti-Truman Doctrine rallies or joined in protests over the Korean War. It is certain they were receiving literature from the Americans for Democratic Action (ADA), the anti-Communist but liberal wing of the Democratic Party led by liberal anti-Communists such as Hubert Humphrey and Arthur Schlesinger Jr.⁴⁶

The FBI, however, conducted more investigations of Elsie and Joe in 1951 and 1954 because of the continuing suspicion that Noel and Hermann were defectors intent on helping the Soviet Union. Mail and contact watches revealed nothing of any concern except letters to and from Lee Lorch a rather noted radical mathematician who always proudly stated he was a “communist.” The FBI concluded Joe’s purported refusal to sign an Illinois loyalty oath was only an expression of his belief in academic freedom. There was a moment of worry in 1960, however. William Hamilton Martin and Bernon F. Mitchell, two National Security Agency codebreakers who had done some graduate work at the Urbana campus, defected to the Soviets. They began revealing the agency’s secrets and mentioned that a “communist” at Urbana had influenced them. The FBI interviewed Joe. He was cleared. One reason given by the FBI for clearing him is strange: The agency gave him a pass because he was in Moscow on another of his now frequent foreign lecture trips when Martin and Mitchell defected.⁴⁷

Well before then, in 1949, there was an additional indication of Joe and Elsie’s pull-back from their earlier ideological commitments. Joan Hinton’s friend Ruth Struik, the daughter of Dirk Struik, the famous Marxist mathematician who had become a favorite target of the un-American Activities Committee, was working as an assistant to the director of the Urbana campus’ project to build an electronic computer, the Ordvac. It was a classified project for the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, the army’s ballistics center that did much work on atomic weapons. Dirk Struik was well known because of his mathematical post at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his never-hidden Marxist beliefs. He also did little to mask his Party involvements, so did his daughter Ruth. That caused the government and the University of Illinois to investigate and dismiss her on national security grounds. Joe Doob was not involved with the Ordvac computer project but his close friend Abraham Haskel Taub was its chief

mathematician. So, Joe knew of the investigation and of Ruth Struik's dismissal. As well, he and Elsie had other connections to the Struik affair. Dirk was a friend of the Clarks, all the Hintons, and Martha Fletcher, Stephen Fritchman's colleague. Dirk and Fletcher were in the same Party cell in Boston. However, there is no trace of Joe or Elsie joining in the many heated protests in Urbana in support of Ruth and academic freedom or against red-baiting.

A Devoted Sister, a Reluctant Allen Dulles, Innocent Unitarians

There were other reasons than an ideological shift for Joe and Elise becoming less active for the lefts' causes. Their three young children, Elsie's emerging health problems, Joe's busy career, and Hermann and Noel's disappearance in mid-1949 demanded all their attention. Elsie's loving devotion to her brothers accounted for her giving much of her precious time and her family's money to finding, then freeing, them. For several years Elsie devoted her life to saving her brothers.

One of Elsie's first acts to help Noel and Hermann revealed that Noel had not kept his Office of Strategic Services (OSS) secrecy pledge. Elsie had learned, probably during Noel's 1946 visit to Urbana, that he had worked for the OSS during the war. She was convinced the American government was obliged to do everything possible to locate Noel because of that. In November 1949, Elsie wrote Allen Dulles asking for information about Noel. Dulles denied anything but a few casual visits with Noel during 1944.⁴⁸ Elsie also sent letters to the Unitarians in Boston demanding they help, especially to counter the rumors that Noel was a Communist. A few months later, as gossip was circulating that Noel was a defector, Joe, who was temporarily teaching at Cornell University in upstate New York, met face-to-face with the Unitarian leaders in New York City's private Union Club. At that meeting Joe's statements revealed that Noel had not kept his pledge of secrecy to the Unitarians about the associations leaders being OSS assets

during the war. Joe demanded help in clearing Noel's reputation because, he said, he knew that three top Unitarians had been OSS operatives. As had Allen Dulles, the usually forthright Unitarians denied any knowledge of Noel's or their work for the wartime organization.

After pleas from Elise, the Unitarian leader William Emerson finally expressed his and the denomination's sympathy and pledged help in pressuring the American government to do more. He did it, however, without admitting the Unitarian's had worked with the OSS. Distressing for Elsie, he added that his organization must "stay-clear" of the Noel problem. Emerson feared the Unitarian's current foreign operations would be endangered if host nations knew the USC had ever worked in intelligence. He also worried that knowledge of the OSS connection would reignite the denomination's internal battles over Stephen Fritchman's activism.

Elsie did much more than contact Dulles and the Unitarians. She lobbied the conservative Ohio Senator Robert Taft and Western Reserve's leaders to insist the State Department find and free her brothers. She continued her lobbying. She contacted the ex-president of the Quakers' Earlham College, Clarence Pickett, who was directing the American Friends Service Committee.⁴⁹ She even had Hermann's former dean, Herbert C. Hunsaker, contact his friend President Eisenhower. All the while, Elsie repeatedly denied that Noel and Hermann's disappearances were linked to any Communist association--she even hinted at some sort of American conspiracy against Noel. She also feared for her own safety, telling one reporter she had contacted the FBI for protection against possible kidnapping because of her efforts.

The State Department responded to Elsie and her friends' pleas by making many inquiries, but Hermann and Noel remained simply as "missing persons." The FBI became involved but only after being assured by the CIA that Noel had never worked for it and was

unknown to members of its current staff. The FBI's involvement included suspicions about Elise's loyalty. That was part of a twisted plot. The State Department had a growing suspicion that either the Soviets had abducted Hermann (and perhaps Noel) because they were COMINTERN agents who might reveal secrets to the West, or the brothers had defected to protect themselves. Perhaps the Communists wanted to silence them, perhaps they were afraid of the American anti-Communist investigations, or, they had gone underground, assumed new identities, and were working as agents in other countries while using the Elsie and Joe Doob as helpers.⁵⁰

Frustration After Frustration

Although aggravated and tired Elsie intensified her search. In England Kate Field began to help Elsie as Joe's mother moved to Urbana so that Elsie could travel to Washington and Europe. Elise bombarded the State Department with additional letters and was a more than frequent and emotional caller at its D.C. offices. She visited bloc embassies and legations in Washington and even met with Allen Dulles again in New York City. He once more provided no help. Joe jumped-in and visited Soviet diplomats. A direct appeal to George F. Kennan of the State Department also failed and Elsie's trip to Europe with her eight-month-old baby led to nothing but articles about her efforts in American newspapers.⁵¹ Elsie then made a few public-relations mistakes. During other newspaper interviews she harshly censured the State Department. That led to public criticisms of her and to the State Department considering her somewhat of an over-emotional bother, as did the CIA. Meanwhile, in England, Kate was constantly at the American Embassy, some thirty visits within a few months. The staff began regarding her as irrational.

But the State Department had not abandoned the Fields. Its offices made inquiry after futile inquiry to the Hungarian, Czech, and Polish governments. Meanwhile, both women

enlisted outside help. Congressmen pressured the State Department. Representatives of higher education, such as George F. Zook of the American Council of Education, the president of the American Institute of Architects, and Hermann's associate Herbert Hunsaker traveled to Washington. Old Harvard friends such as the George Howard Parker and the great George Sarton wrote on behalf of their close friends Noel, Herta, and Hermann. But attempts to enlist the help of the Unitarian's continued to be disappointing. Edward Cahill privately contacted the State Department and indicated his organization wanted to stay out of the affair while giving a less than complimentary view of what he now considered the not-quite-innocent and certainly hypochondriac Noel.

Elsie and Kate's frustrations morphed into anger when the State Department, and Eleanor Roosevelt, refused to take the issue to the United Nations. The two women were especially upset when George F. Kennan temporarily blocked any idea of pressuring the Soviet government for information. The two wives did not end their search, but all they and the government gained were rumors. While Elsie was convinced all the Fields were alive in Czechoslovakia, there were reports of them living a pampered life in Moscow. Jo Tempi said Noel was in prison there writing his memoirs. France's intelligence agency believed the three Fields were in Hungary. Some rumors held they were all dead.

Tapping Family Resources

Meanwhile, the Doob and Field families were rapidly depleting their savings and energy. Lawyers and travel were expensive and tiring. Although only forty-four, Elsie already had grey hair. She tested her diminishing strength when, although caring for a new baby, she traveled throughout Europe using her meager savings as she sought news of her brothers. Kate Field was

also using-up her funds. They needed outside financing so Elsie and Kate turned to the courts for money to continue their search. It took three years for them to convince the probate courts to release the substantial funds⁵² Noel and Hermann had on deposit in a Boston bank and allow Elsie and Kate to spend a portion of them each year to cover their expenses. Whether or not the courts had to declare the men dead is unclear, but even if not the process was emotionally trying for the two women. However, access to the funds prevented Elsie and Kate from having to take a drastic step. The family was able to keep and use the Shirley, Massachusetts farm that had been a central part of Hermann and Nina's lives.⁵³

At one point it seems Elsie was willing to risk much, perhaps all, of the family's money. The Russians were offered a huge payment for information about Noel, Herta, Hermann and Erica. After that offer received no response Elsie was extra careful with her and Noel's funds. She placed Noel's in a special trust in the Rockland-Atlas Bank in Boston and continued with what was becoming a near half decade crusade to locate her brothers.

They Shall Return

In 1954, after suffering close to five years of frustration, and with Joe scheduled for a series of speeches in Europe, Elsie decided to visit Kate in London to better coordinate their rescue efforts, and then to take her children to Switzerland so they could understand how she had grown up. As with most academics, the family traveled on the cheapest air fares. While in London with Kate, Elsie was surprised by the unexpected announcements of Noel, Herta, and Hermann's release. She decided to stay-on in Europe to help with the process of returning them, she assumed, to the United States.

When she learned how badly Hermann had been treated and discovered that Noel and Herta had developed "psychoses" because of their imprisonment and brainwashing Elsie moved further

away from her youthful Marxism . Reflecting her new ideological moderation, when Noel indicated he was going to remain in Hungary, Elsie told Noel the United States was safe enough for him to return without any fear of punishment. In contrast to most of America's old Reds, Elsie had regained faith in the United States' legal system after the end of the McCarthy anti-Communist struggle.

When Elsie returned to Urbana she resumed being a devoted mother and housewife. In the late 1950s she bravely battled cancer while doing her best not to upset the children. Joe also settled-in. He focused on wife and family although continuing to advance the field of statistics. He turned down a very lucrative and professorship offer from MIT because he did not wish to upset Elsie's or the children's lives. His son remembered how much time and loving attention Joe gave to him. Joe also became a rather beloved teacher and a center-piece of the social lives of his university's faculty (his Saturday group hikes became famous). At the same time, he was reaching the very highest levels in mathematics and in America's scientific infrastructure. He was, for example, a President of the American Mathematical Society, was awarded the society's coveted Steel prize, was a recipient of the National Medal of Science; was a trustee of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and was a mainstay at the National Academy of Sciences. He achieved all that despite still having a reputation as being a bit on-the-left.

After surviving her severe cancer episode, and seeing her children successfully approaching adulthood, Elsie resumed medical practice, at least part time. She did not return to internal medicine for long, however. She sought additional training for a specialty that reflected her long-held commitment to birth control. After working in the local hospital, as her health improved she deepened her commitments to planned living. She took classes sponsored by the Sanger interests and made herself a major figure in her state's birth control movement. And she

became a house physician for Planned Parenthood after it had been able to shed the clouded reputation of the preceding American Birth Control League and Margaret Sanger's Clinical Research Bureau that had been tainted by their links to eugenics, population control, and sterilization.⁵⁴ Elsie soon became the medical director for Urbana's Planned Parenthood and an energetic supporter of the abortion-rights movement. There is no evidence that she performed abortions and whether she supported the elective destruction of fetuses is unknown. However, she became a celebrated model for the state's most dynamic feminists and was important to them to the time of her 1991 death.⁵⁵

She seems to have maintained few connections to institutionalized Quaker religion although she and Joe continued to use thee and thou. Her new beliefs paralleled the reorientation of the American Friends Service Committee as its new leadership moved to support domestic causes during the 1960s, including abortion and homosexuality.⁵⁶ Joe Doob had also become more religiously liberal. He did not return to Judaism; he became connected to the Universal Life Church.

Elsie never forgot her dear and, she thought, still misguided Noel. Beginning in 1963, she and Joe made several trips to Budapest to visit him. That led to another but short interest in the Doobs by the FBI, and to Elsie realizing that Noel had taken a far different and irreversible ideological path than the other Fields.⁵⁷

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- ¹ BU b32 ‘authorizes ’ FBI FOIA, hermann field 7-01-49; Field, “*Trapped,*” *Op. cit.*
- ² Sharp, “*Stalin’s,*” *Op. cit.*.
- ³ Hodos, *Op. cit.*
- ⁴ The couple knew Hermann before the war and had visited him in the United States. FBI FOIA, noel field..
- ⁵ FBI FOIA, hermann field.
- ⁶ Shackley, Ted with Richard A. Finney, *Spymaster: My Life in the CIA* (Dulles, VA: Potomac Books, 2005) . Field. “*Trapped,*” *Op. cit.*
- ⁷ FBI FOIA, hermann field. One CIA source claimed Hermann told his interrogators that he had been and was a true Communist , but the source may have confused Noel and Hermann.
- ⁸“ Hunsaker Collection, “*Op. cit.*; BU b32; USC 16135/3.
- ⁹ FBI FOIA, hermann field.
- ¹⁰ FBI FOIA, noel field.
- ¹¹ FBI FOIA, hermann field.
- ¹² FBI FOIA, herman field 11-12 1954 and *passim*; Weinstein, “*Haunted,*” *Op. Cit.*
- ¹³ Barth, “*der Fall,*” *Op. cit.*; FBI FOIA, noel field ..
- ¹⁴ FBI FOIA, noel field, FBI FOIA, hermann field. On Christopher, *The Guardian* 10-1-2001.
- ¹⁵ FBI FOIA, hermann field 11-16-1954; FBI FOIA, noel field .
- ¹⁶ In 2020 constant dollars, FBI FOIA, hermann field , 1-6-1955.
- ¹⁷ This may have been the basis for the theme of Stewarts “*Splinter Factor,*” *Op. cit.*, which held that Dulles et al. planted stories about Noel.
- ¹⁸ FBI FOIA, hermann field. . .
- ¹⁹ FBI FOIA, hermann field, 12-54; FBI FOIA, noel field.
- ²⁰ FBI FOIA, hermann field, and Alan Field emails.
- ²¹ The Unitarians have a splendid bibliography at <http://uudb.org/articles/jamesfreemanclarke.html>
- ²² Bryn Mawr alumnae list.
- ²³ Alan Field Emails; Bryn Mawr alumnae publications; Lowell, Delmar Rial *The Historic Genealogy of the Lowells of America from 1639 to 1899* (Rutland, Vt.: Tuttle Co., printers, 1899); *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, 57, 18 (Nov., 1922): 482-3.
- ²⁴ Field, “*Trapped,*” *Op. cit.*
- ²⁵ Field, Hermann & Stanislaw Mierzenski, *Angry Harvest* (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, 1958); Field, Hermann, *Duck Lane* (New York: Crowell, 1961).
- ²⁶ McKee, Guian A., "The Hospital City in an Ethnic Enclave: Tufts-New England Medical Center, Boston's Chinatown, and the Urban Political Economy of Health Care," *Journal of Urban History*, 42 2 (2016): 259-283.
- ²⁷ FBI FOIA, hermann field ..
- ²⁸ FBI FOIA, hermann field and Sharp, “*Stalin’s Spy,*” *Op. cit.*
- ²⁹ Miller, Russell E. *Light on the hill: a history of Tufts College 1852-1952* (Boston, Beacon Press, 1966); Freeland, Richard M., *Academia's Golden Age: Universities In Massachusetts, 1945-1970* (NY: Oxford University Press, 1999); Gittleman. Sol, *An Entrepreneurial University: the Transformation of Tufts, 1976-2002* (Medford, Mass.: Tufts University Press, 2004).
- ³⁰ Gittleman, Sol, *Op. cit.* ; Tufts N. E. Medical Center, circa 1975 as cited in *Social Sci Med.*, 11, (1977): 219.
- ³¹ http://ase.tufts.edu/uep/About/H_Field_Cv.aspx.
- ³² Schlesinger Arthur Jr., "Left Field", a review of the book red pawn,” *New York Review of Books*, 2-11-1965), as from CIA’S CREST; Schlesinger, “A Life,” *Op. cit.*; Wreszin, Michael, “Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. Scholar-Activist in Cold War America: 1946-1956,” *Salamagundi*, 63/64 (Spring-Summer 1984): 255-286.
- ³³ FBI FOIA, noel field 4 14 1949, “Adopted Daughter.”.
- ³⁴ Committee on Un-American Activities 85th Congress, *The Erica Wallach Story: Report by the Committee on Un-American Activities 85th Congress Second Session*, March 21, 1958 (Washington D. C.: GPO, 1958);Wallach,

“Light”, *Op. cit.*; McIntosh, Elizabeth, *Sisterhood of Spies: the Women of the OSS* (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1998).

³⁵ FBI FOIA, hermann field 1952.

³⁶ CREST, ‘To Dulles’ 1-9-1958.

³⁷ FBI FOIA, hermann field.

³⁸ The Erica Wallach story : Report by the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, Eighty-fifth Congress, second session. March 21, 1958. (Index Including) United States. Congress. House. Committee on Un-American Activities.; United States. Congress House. 195.8

³⁹ FBI FOIA, hermann field 1958.

⁴⁰ FBI FOIA, hermann field, 3-12-56.

⁴¹ BU b4.

⁴² For further citations on Elsie and Joe Doobs early life, Burke “*Information,*” *Op. cit.*

⁴³ BU b32 f8; Sharp. “*Stalin ’s,*” *Op. cit.*, p56.

⁴⁴ J. L. Doob, "Probability and statistics," *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* (American Mathematical Society) 36 4 (1934): 759775.

⁴⁵ J. L. Doob, *Stochastic Processes*. (NY: John Wiley & Sons, 1953).

⁴⁶ FBI FOIA, doob

⁴⁷ FBI FOIA, doob; Barker, Wayne G. and Rodney E. Coffman, *The Anatomy of Two Traitors: The Defection of Bernon F. Mitchell and William H. Martin* (Laguna Hills, CA: Aegean Park Press, 1981).

⁴⁸ FBI FOIA, doob ; Dulles Papers, Princeton University, 11-25-1949.

⁴⁹ FBI FOIA, doob; FBI FOIA, noel field.

⁵⁰ FBI FOIA, hermann field 5-16-50.

⁵¹ Marton, “*True Believer,*” *Op. Cit.*, 177.

⁵² In 2020 constant dollars.

⁵³ FBI FOIA, noel field, FBI FOIA, hermann field, FBI FOIA, doob.

⁵⁴ Engleman, Peter C., *A History of the Birth Control Movement in America* (Santa Barbara, Ca: Praeger, 2011).

⁵⁵ Anonymous, “Elsie Field: Portrait of a Physician,” *Women and Health*. 9 1 (Spring, 1984).

⁵⁶ McKanan, Dan, *Prophetic Encounters: Religion and the American Radical Tradition* (Boston: Beacon Press, 2011).

⁵⁷ FBI FOIA, noel field.