

Date: 12/22/98
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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : CIA
RECORD NUMBER : 104-10435-10001
RECORD SERIES : JFK
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : RUSS HOLMES WORK FILE

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : CIA
FROM :
TO :
TITLE : MEMO NO.9:GARRISON AND THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION
DATE : 06/05/68
PAGES : 7
SUBJECTS : GARRISON
BECKHAM

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : SECRET
RESTRICTIONS : 1B
CURRENT STATUS : RELEASED WITH DELETIONS
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 11/16/98
OPENING CRITERIA :
COMMENTS : JFK-RH02:F050-1 1998.11.16.09:55:03:170129:

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

~~SECRET~~

RELEASE AS SANITIZED

1998

5 JUN 1968

MEMORANDUM No. 9

SUBJECT: Garrison and the Kennedy Assassination

I. SUMMARY

This memorandum provides information about twenty persons who have not been listed previously in this series, who are involved in the Garrison case, and who have or have claimed to have a connection with the Central Intelligence Agency. One, William Clarens WOOD, is a former staff employee.

II. PERSONNEL

1. Thomas Edward BECKHAM (aka Mark EVANS) ✓

a. GARRISON subpoenaed BECKHAM 30 December 1967 and an Omaha, Nebraska, judge ordered him to return to Louisiana 30 January 1968. BECKHAM says he helped Sergio ARCACHA Smith raise funds for Cuban revolutionary forces in New Orleans in 1962. BECKHAM is an entertainer-evangelist who uses the stage name of Mark EVANS.

b. On 3 January 1968 BECKHAM allegedly told David LEWIS of New Orleans that he, BECKHAM, and a Jim LNU "from Omaha" are agents of the CIA.

c. RID has no record of BECKHAM.

2. Melvin BELLI

a. BELLI was a defense attorney for Jack RUBY.

b. Jim GARRISON was a weekend guest of BELLI when GARRISON visited San Francisco in October 1967.

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Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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c. BELLI was reportedly involved in illicit drug traffic with Morris ELOWITZ in 1958. ELOWITZ was a suspected contact of Lucky LUCIANO.

x 3. Donald Dean BOHNING (201-813709)

a. BOHNING is the Latin American Editor of the Miami Herald. He was granted a PSEA on 21 August 1967 and a CSA on 14 November 1967. He is AM [01]

b. BOHNING reported he was contacted on 23 March 1968 by a Winston SMITH who claimed to be investigating Rolando MASFERRER for Jim GARRISON.

x 4. Colonel L. Robert CASTORR

a. Col. CASTORR allegedly met with Jack RUBY, Robert FERRIN, and others in Dallas in 1962 to plan a Cuban smuggling operation. CASTORR is also allegedly an associate of General Edwin A. WALKER. Joachim JOESTEN and others have broadly hinted that CASTORR is associated with CIA.

b. There is no record of agency association with CASTORR. An FBI report of 13 March 1968 reported that CASTORR had lunch with Viktor Ivanovich MIRONOV (201-731745), a KGB officer at the Soviet Embassy in Washington.

x 5. Lloyd J. COBB /

a. As President of the New Orleans Trade Center, COBB was, according to Plot or Politics, the "boss" of Clay SHAW.

b. COBB was granted a CSC on 3 October 1953 for use on a private attorneys' panel for the OCC. COBB was granted a PBA on 19 June 1967 to permit contact and assessment in connection with his use on a cleared attorneys' panel for the OCC.

x 6. Michael Charles CONLEY

a. Michael Charles CONLEY is an apparent US Government source of Robert Kenneth BROWN.

b. A Dr. Michael C. CONLEY applied for Agency employment in 1964. Identity with a, above, has not been established.

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7. Allen W. DULLES

a. GARRISON subpoenaed Mr. DULLES on 16 February 1968 as a material witness.

b. On 7 March 1968 Judge Matthew BRANIFF issued a second subpoena for Mr. DULLES.

c. On 22 May 1968 GARRISON's office accused the Justice Department of refusing to cooperate in the subpoenaing of Mr. DULLES as a witness.

8. Wieslaw GORNICKI (201-198323)

a. GORNICKI is a Polish journalist who was the author of a long article on the GARRISON investigation in "Polityka" No. 1 (366), Year XII Warsaw, 6 January 1968.

b. GORNICKI was the subject of an unsuccessful recruitment attempt in 1965 while he was a correspondent at the UN.

9. Marshall Wilson HOUTS (201-833160)

a. HOUTS, a former FBI agent, is the author of an article in Medical Economics 4 March 1968 which criticized the autopsy of President Kennedy.

b. HOUTS served with OSS in Burma during World War II and was involved in the misappropriation of government property. HOUTS unsuccessfully applied for Agency employment in 1952.

10. Guy Persac JOHNSON (201-207973)

a. JOHNSON was an early defense counsel for Clay SHAW.

b. A POA was requested 14 May 1954 for JOHNSON to be used on Guam as a contract agent for [redacted] KODIAK (training base on Ilijan). The request for the POA was later cancelled.

11. William R. KLEIN

a. According to Plot or Politics KLEIN was an

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incorporator of Friends of Democratic Cuba, along with Guy BANISTER, William DALZELL, and Grady C. DURHAM. KLEIN denied contact with DURHAM, BANISTER, and Friends of Democratic Cuba. He admitted association with DALZELL to set up the Free Voice of Latin America. KLEIN seems to be a personal friend of Jim GARRISON.

b. KLEIN applied for agency employment in 1965 but accepted a job with the US Navy General Counsel's Office.

12. Robert Evensen LEE ✓

a. LEE was an Assistant District Attorney for Jim GARRISON from 1 January 1967 to 1 January 1968.

b. LEE applied for agency employment on 5 January 1969.

13. William Richard MARTIN (201-203516) ✓

a. MARTIN was an Assistant District Attorney for Jim GARRISON until December 1967.

b. MARTIN was a DC6 contact and source in 1964 and 1965 when he was Director of International Relations and World Trade of International House in New Orleans.

14. Reiman MORIN (201-109129)

a. MORIN is the author of Assassination, a pro-Warren Commission book.

b. MORIN provided information to OSS on his internment in Indo China during the early part of World War II.

c. MORIN was considered for the job of President of the Committee for a Free Asia in 1951 and the job of President of [01] Asia Foundation) in 1953.

15. Dr. Alton OCHSNER (201-834477) ✓

a. An FBI confidential informant reported on 24 April 1963 that Jim GARRISON believes Dr. OCHSNER was a principal involved in the conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy.

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b. Dr. OCHSNER is Director of the Ochsner Foundation, head of the Ochsner Clinic, and President of the Information Council of America. He is a world-famous surgeon.

Former head
of the
American Cancer
Society

c. Dr. OCHSNER was of contact interest in October 1947 and November 1948. He has been a cleared source since 13 May 1955. The last official contact with Dr. OCHSNER personally occurred on 8 January 1962 and with the Ochsner Clinic on 8 November 1963.

16. Robert FERRIN

a. Robert FERRIN allegedly met with Jack RUBY, Col. L. Robert CASTOR, and others in Dallas in 1962 to plan a Cuban smuggling operation. FERRIN has been accused of being a CIA gun-runner in Spain and in Cuba.

b. A Lt. (jg) Robert Polloch FERRIN filed a personal history statement with OSS in January 1944. There is no indication he ever served with OSS or was later connected with the Agency.

17. Benjamin SONNENBERG

a. Mark LANE said on the acknowledgement page of Rush To Judgement: "I am deeply indebted to Benjamin SONNENBERG, Jr. whose numerous and invaluable suggestions have found their way into this volume."

b. Benjamin SONNENBERG was granted a CSA on 27 June 1957 for use under Project QUENCHANT. The CSA was revalidated for continued use on 26 July 1965.

c. An April 1957 Duma and Bradstreet report listed SONNENBERG as a director of the publishing firm of Henry Holt and Company, Inc., 333 Madison Ave., New York City. Rush To Judgement was published by Holt, Rinehart and Wilson Inc., 333 Madison Ave., ostensibly the same company.

d. An October 1954 FBI report said that in 1933 Alfred K. STEIN earmarked \$3000 in a bank account to guarantee a bank loan made to SONNENBERG.

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a. There is no indication that SONNENBERG ever used the term "junior" and it is not known yet if he has a son of that name.

18. Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Bloom STERN (file is 201-170541)

a. Jack ROGERS, the committee counsel for the joint legislative Committee on Un-American Activities for the State of Louisiana, reported to the DCS on 1 June 1967, that GARRISON had been receiving contributions and monetary support from Mrs. Edgar B. STERN.

b. Mrs. Edgar B. STERN is the former Edith ROSENWALD and the former sister-in-law of Alfred K. STERN.

c. Clay SHAW attended a party given by "an old friend", Edith STERN, apparently in October 1967.

d. Edgar B. STERN was granted a covert clearance in January 1953 for use as a donor in Project COIN. This clearance was cancelled in September 1956.

e. Philip Maurice STERN, son of the above mentioned couple, was granted a liaison clearance in March 1961 when he was the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs. Philip STERN was also named as one of a "board of advisors" to Hubert HUMPHREY in 1961.

19. Monroe SULLIVAN

a. SULLIVAN claimed to be with Clay SHAW in San Francisco all day 22 November 1963.

b. SULLIVAN was granted a CSA on 19 December 1962 to permit utilization under Project KENCHANT.

20. William Clarence WOOD (201-834272)

a. A Bill WOOD, using the name Bill BOXLEY, is investigating CIA and its operations for Jim GARRISON.

b. Bill WOOD is believed to be identical with William Clarence WOOD, a former staff employee of this Agency.

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c. William Clarence WOOD, born 17 August 1920, was approved for OSS duty in December 1944, but was not utilized. On 13 December 1950 WOOD was granted a CSC for utilization as a Staff Agent with Project ~~FOCUS~~ FOCUS. He suffered a nervous breakdown in March 1952. He was assigned to OTR as an instructor (GS-11) in May 1952. He resigned 27 January 1953, after his resignation had been requested, because of alcoholism. While under the influence of sodium pentothol during a medical operation in July 1953 WOOD made statements showing extreme antagonism toward the Agency. The FBI reported in April 1957 that WOOD had offered assistance to the Nationalist Chinese Intelligence Service. DCS requested clearance to use WOOD in February 1967 but dropped the request after the FBI reported that he was drinking heavily again.

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