

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Mohr
- 1 - DeLoach

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Bishop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TO : W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 4/15/64

FROM : W. A. Branigan

- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan
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- 1 - Coakley
- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Leahan
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SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

5-Branigan
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Articles by Thomas Gittings Buchanan, Jr., on his version of the assassination of President Kennedy have recently appeared in the French newspaper "L'Express." Copies of past articles received from Legal Attache, Paris, have been furnished along with translations to the President's Commission. Buchanan worked for the "Washington Evening Star" as a reporter from 1946 to 1948 when he admitted Communist Party (CP) membership to an official of that paper and was dismissed. He admitted CP membership to Bureau Agents in 1952 and 1953 but claimed in 1956 that he had left the CP. His name is carried on the Reserve Index.

Previous articles by Buchanan have been based on speculation and unfounded material, much of it previously published, to the effect that Lee Harvey Oswald was an Agent of the FBI and/or Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and that the investigation of the assassination was covering up discrepancies which cast doubt on Oswald's guilt.

Buchanan's article "Struggle to the Death Between Wall Street and Texas," appearing in the 3/26/64 issue of "L'Express," has been received, translated and reviewed. This last article in the series by Buchanan continues the thesis that Oswald and Ruby were part of a plot to kill President Kennedy and implies that wealthy and influential men in Texas were behind the plot. Buchanan states that Oswald would not have been employed by the Texas School Book Depository without the permission of the city government and "without a decided willingness of the rulers of Dallas to use Oswald later on." Actually the Texas School Box Depository is a private concern, not a city agency.

The wealthy men mentioned in this article include H. L. Hunt, his son Lamar Hunt, and the brothers John D. and Clinton W. Murchison. He claims that these wealthy men of Texas are not "level headed rational businessmen" but are adventurers and gamblers in their operations of the petroleum industries and their spirit of gambling has carried over to other areas.

Buchanan states that there are three enemies of the Hunts, Murchisons and "other Texas billionaires": (1) Wall Street financiers; (2) Washington politicians; and (3) communists. Buchanan states that

Enclosure *sent 4-16-64*
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Re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
105-32555

the wealthy Texans seek to dominate the United States by taking control of Wall Street. In example of this is the effort of the Murchison brothers, he claims, leading to their control of the Investor's Diversified Services (IDS), although a court judgment declared transfer of the IDS to their control illegal and they took a financial loss in relinquishing that control.

As to the political activity of the wealthy Texans, Buchanan says the Hunts and Murchisons provided the late Senator McCarthy with money and prevented the re-election of two critics of Senator McCarthy's in the United States Senate, William Benton of Connecticut and Millard Tydings of Maryland.

As to communism, Buchanan claims that the "Dallas billionaires" consider a communist to be any critic of their regime and their fiscal privileges.

Buchanan asks why the FBI took so long to reveal its knowledge of Oswald's attempt on 4/10/63 on General Edwin A. Walker's life. He, of course, implies that the Bureau knew Oswald was involved in that attempt; however, our first knowledge of his attempt on General Walker's life came from Larina Oswald on 12/3/63. The Dallas Police Department while investigating the attempt on Walker's life did not develop Oswald as a suspect.

Buchanan states that General Walker could have used Oswald to make an unsuccessful attempt on his life in order to gain publicity and to increase his (General Walker's) popularity. Buchanan also claims that an association between Walker and Oswald is proved by the fact that Oswald's address book contained Walker's name and telephone number and the name, private telephone number and license number of an FBI Agent, according to the "Dallas Morning Times." Special Agent James P. Hosty is the FBI Agent but it was the telephone number of the Dallas Office and not Hosty's private number which was found in Oswald's address book. The entry re Walker in the address book is "Walke LA 1-4115." LA 1-4115 is the telephone number of General Walker in Dallas. We have developed no information substantiating Buchanan's claim of association between Walker and Oswald.

Buchanan also parrots the communist propaganda line that the relaxation of "cold-war tensions" would hurt the extensive investments in oil and other industries of the wealthy Texan businessmen and, therefore, they oppose such relaxation.

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105-62555

All in all, the series of articles by Buchanan are based on speculation and preconceived notion that authorities are covering up matters in the investigation of the assassination. He persists throughout the series in ignoring or distorting numerous facts and items of evidence which point to the guilt of Oswald. By attached letter the President's Commission is being furnished a copy of the 3/26/64 "L'Express" article by Buchanan with two copies of a translation thereof.

This article by Buchanan closes with the announcement that a book entitled "The Assassins of Kennedy" will be published in French soon. Legal Attache, Paris, previously advised of this development and has been instructed by the Bureau to obtain copies of this book for comparison with Buchanan's articles. This matter will be followed and reported.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter be sent to the President's Commission.

W.C.D.
Salvo
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GH