MMENT UNITED STATES GOV emorana 10/10/67 DATE: Mr. Bishop/ 'n М. FROM SUBJECT: MARSHALL WILSON HOUTS WHERE DEATH DELIGHTS" AUTHOR OF BACKGROUND: Pursuant to the Director's request, files have been reviewed concerning Houts. INFORMATION IN BUFILES Marshall Wilson Houts was a Special Agent of the FBI from August 20, 1941, to December 30, 1943, when he voluntarily resigned to resume service with the United States Marine Corps. His services were entirely satisfactory. Houts was born June 28, 1919, at Chattanooga, Tehnessee, and was graduated in 1941 with a LL. B. degree from the University of Minnesota. In June. of 1941, he entered the United States Marine Corps and later that year entered the Bureau as an Agent. Since leaving the FBI, Houts has authored a number of books dealing with investigative and legal topics. served as counsel for the "Court of Last Resort Department" of Argosy magazir. and in 1956 and 1957 he was an Assistant Professor of Police Administration at Michigan State University. Until 1959, we had cordial limited relations with Houts and furnished him with statistical data and reprinted material for some of his writings. However, in that year Houts and famed mystery writer Erle Stanley Gardner, with whom he was then associated, criticized a Bureau kidnaping investigation claiming that the convicted offender was actually innocent. Their criticism was completely unfounded and Gardner retracted his complaints when confronted with the facts by Bureau officials. have had no recent dealings with Houts. 1 - Mr. DeLoach 1 - Mr. Bishop 1 - Mr. Rosen 1 - Mr. Sulliyan 12 1 - Mr. Conrad CONTINUED OVER **b**El JHC:db 7.75 7.20 martine ?

Jones to Bishop Memo RE: MARSHALL WILSON HOUTS

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Captioned book by Houts contains no criticism of the FBL. It does, however, express the opinion of Dr. Milton Helpern, Chief Medical Examiner for the city of New York, that the autopsy performed on the body of former President Kennedy following his assassination was inadequate and has left doubts and suspicions concerning some conclusions made by the Warren Commission.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For the Director's information.