

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

DATE: 4-10-64

FROM : W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R - CUBA

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - DeLoach
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan
- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Malley
- 1 - Lenihan

Belmont	_____
DeLoach	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Branigan	_____
Malley	_____
Lenihan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

Use by JFK Team
Source: Dallas Morning letter 11/22
Bureau
10
WCS
JFK

A highly critical, full page ad costing \$1463 appeared in the "Dallas Morning News" on the morning of 11-22-63 entitled "Welcome, Mr. Kennedy to Dallas" which was signed by the "American Fact Finding Committee, Bernard Weissman, Chairman, Post Office Box 1792, Dallas 21, Texas." This article brought great public indignation and was described as a vicious and cruel article which employed the type of verbiage which tends to incite fanatics.

The article was in the form of a public questionnaire to President Kennedy listing 12 questions principally concerning foreign policy matters.

Investigation revealed this article was prepared by Larric Henry Schmidt, a Dallas, Texas, insurance salesman, and by Joseph P. Grinnan, a Dallas independent oil man, both of whom were members of the John Birch Society. The money for the ad, according to Schmidt, was solicited by Grinnan from approximately six prominent Dallas businessmen. We have interviewed Weissman concerning the article in great detail. We have not interviewed Joseph P. Grinnan who allegedly solicited the funds for the article from prominent Dallas businessmen.

By letter 4-7-64 Mr. J. Lee Rankin of the President's Commission requested this Bureau to investigate the source of the funds used to pay for this article. Mr. Rankin specifically requested that either Grinnan or Weissman be interviewed to learn the names of the contributors to the advertisement.

Inasmuch as Grinnan is the individual who allegedly made the solicitation for funds from prominent Dallas businessmen, it is felt we should go directly to him to obtain this information.

Bufiles show that Joseph P. Grinnan of Dallas, Texas, is an independent oil man and a member of the John Birch Society. Our files also show that at the time of the desegregation of the University of Mississippi Grinnan was reported to be a volunteer aide for former General Edwin A. Walker, a known organizer of the John Birch Society, and to keep arms in his automobile.

REL:mhw (8)

Enc. 105-32555

REC-40

ENCLOSURE
105-3558
10 MAY 5 1964

(Section 148)

105-32555
105-3558
10 MAY 5 1964

Memo Branigan to Sullivan
re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R - CUBA
105-82555

We have talked to Weissman in the past and he did not volunteer such details to us. It appears quite probable that Weissman would not know who contributed for the ad.

ACTION:

Attached is an airtel to the Dallas Office instructing that Joseph P. Grinnan be immediately interviewed in accordance with the Commission's request in an effort to determine the source of the funds used to pay for instant advertisement.

Handwritten notes and signatures:
J.P. Grinnan
P.L. [unclear]
Sullivan
OK.
V.