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WARNING NOTICE  
SENSITIVE SOURCES AND  
METHODS INVOLVED

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

9 - JUN 1964

Commission No. 1012

GA-1 CTA

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
President's Commission on the  
Assassination of President Kennedy

SUBJECT: George and Jeanne De MOHRENSCHILDT

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 31 March 1964 requesting any information on George and Jeanne De MOHRENSCHILDT that is available in CIA files. Our review shows that the files contain reports received from other U.S. Government agencies, primarily the FBI, as well as some information developed by this Agency in 1957 and 1958. The review also produced references to information in the records of predecessor agencies (Coordinator of Information and OSS). According to the records of those agencies, George De MOHRENSCHILDT had been considered for employment in 1942, but was not hired because he was alleged to be a Nazi espionage agent. No information developed by CIA (or its predecessors) before the assassination of President Kennedy had established any link between the De MOHRENSCHILDTs and Lee Harvey OSWALD or his family.

2. CIA's initial interest in George De MOHRENSCHILDT developed as a result of his sojourn in Yugoslavia in 1957 on behalf of the International Cooperation Agency (ICA). It is usual for CIA to contact and debrief persons who return from abroad and appear to possess information which falls within the framework of foreign intelligence required by various U.S. Government agencies. In that connection CIA headquarters sent a routine

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Authority: CIA Order 12/22/77  
By: Mmg, NARS Date: 1/19/78

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informal, occasional contact with the De MOHRENSCHILDTS until the autumn of 1961. He has not seen them since that time, although he received a Christmas card from them during the holiday period following the assassination.

3. On the 23rd or 24th of November 1963, after the assassination, our representative in Dallas received a telephone call from one of his contacts who told him that several had attended a social or a discussion group in January 1963 and that Lee Harvey OSWALD had also been there. Our representative immediately arranged for the FBI to contact the source. It was later ascertained from the FBI, and from one of our own sources, that George De MOHRENSCHILDT was present at the meeting and had introduced OSWALD to the group.

4. At CIA headquarters the association between the De MOHRENSCHILDTS and the OSWALDs was noted for the first time in December 1963 when it was reported from Haiti that the De MOHRENSCHILDTS had appeared at the Embassy and volunteered information about their relationship with the OSWALDs. At about the same time the details of their association began to appear in reports made by other U.S. Government agencies engaged in investigating the assassination.

5. During the contact with George De MOHRENSCHILDT late in 1957 and early 1958, his background was investigated. Inquiries produced a considerable amount of information about him and his activities, including allegations that during World War II he had engaged in espionage activities on behalf of the Nazis; that he was a member of the Communist Party; and that after the war he was sympathetic toward Communism and the U.S.S.R. The investigation was extended to Belgium where George De MOHRENSCHILDT claimed to have lived from 1930 until 1938. His educational background and his work as a journalist were confirmed there.

6. We also learned that in 1943 he married the seventeen-year-old Dorothy PIERSON in New York City and that they were divorced about two years later. In 1948 or 1949 he married Thyllis WASHINGTON and lived with her in Colorado for about two years. After that marriage had ended in divorce, he married "Didi" SHARPLES in 1951. That marriage also ended in a divorce. (The FBI reports received since 22 November 1963, show that after his third divorce he married his present wife, Jeanne De MOHRENSCHILDT, nee FOMENKO.) Throughout his adult life, George De MOHRENSCHILDT has used variations of his basic name, including such variants as Jerry de MOHRENSCHILDT; Jerzy von MOHRENSCHILDT; George von MOHRENSCHILD; and George Sergius de MOHRENSCHILD. In like manner he also seems to have varied his former ethnic origin from Russian, to Polish, Swedish, Danish, and German. On several occasions he was reported as using the title "Baron". There also appear to be two versions of his mother's maiden name: Alexandra LATOSKEY and Alexandra ZAPOLSKI.

7. FBI Special Agent \_\_\_\_\_ came to CIA on 19 March 1964 and reviewed this Agency's files on the De MOHRENSCHILDTs.

8. On 17 March 1964 the FBI furnished to this Agency a report dated 23 February 1964.

9. You may also wish to make inquiries at the Office of Naval Intelligence; the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army; the Department of State; and the Civil Service Commission because these departments also have information about George De MOHRENSCHILDT.

10. We trust that this report meets your request for information about the De MOHRENSCHILDTs.

(Signed) Richard Helms  
Richard Helms  
Deputy Director for Plans

CIA #18-522 looks like a CIA memo to Rankin, but was apparently a draft rather than the final version of this CD. The differences are nontrivial but do not look crucial.

One sentence ("It is usual ... agencies") has been added to paragraph 2. At some point, in 1964 or later (perhaps during the latest review), the original page 2 has been combined with the expanded page 1. The following information is therefore missing in this copy: "[In that connection CIA headquarters sent a routine] advisory to its Dallas representative who called on the De MOHRENSCHILDTs in the early part of December 1957. In the course of several meetings the CIA representative obtained foreign intelligence which was promptly disseminated to other federal agencies in ten separate reports. The Dallas representative continued" My guess is that the wrong page 2 was put in CD 1012 during the 1978 review process. The first 9 lines of paragraph 6 (and possibly part of paragraph 5, which is mostly deleted) do not appear in CIA #18-522. Paragraph 10 is also new.

Paul L. Hoch  
1 April 1979