UNITED STATES GO. RNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT" J DY WILLIAM MANCHESTER

2 - 21 - 67DATU: 1 - Mr. DoLoach 1 - Mr. Wick 1 - Mr. Sullivan 1 - Mr. R. Jensen 1 - Mr. Branigan 1 - Mr. Lenihan 5-1610/22

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The Baltimore Sun Newspaper of 2-20-67, carried an article datelined 2-19-67 at New York reviewing the fourth installment of Look Magazine's serialization of William Manchester's book, "The Death of a President." Included therein is the statement that "Mr. Johnson showed Theodore' Sorensen, Special Counsel to Mr. Kennedy, an FBI memorandum advising him that the heads of 'an unfriendly power' had been hoping for Mr. Hennedy's death. The book says the memorandum contained no names or other hard facts and a code word had been used to identify the FBI's informant. Sorensen studied the memorandum for a moment and said, 'meaningless'."

In connection with this reference, the Director noted "What about this memo?"

A thorough search of Bureau records during the period 11-22-63 (date of the assassination of President Kennedy) to 1-1-64 has disclosed no memorandum containing information as reported by Manchester having been sent to President Johnson or to his then Assistant Walter Jenkins.

OBSERVATION:

Inasmuch as no record of such a memorandum can be located in our files, it appears possible that such a statement is pure fiction, made by someone for the personal bunefit of either Theodore Sorensen or William Manchester.

ACTION:

Nonc. This is furnished for your information.

to FEB 27 18671

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