

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Wick

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: MILTON VIORST

BACKGROUND:

DATE: 2-1-67

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Continuation of memo to John F. Kennedy

The Director is in receipt of the February, 1967, issue of "the Washingtonian," which was mailed from the Washington, D. C. headquarters office of that publication. It contains (pp 60-61 & 81) an article by Milton Viorst entitled "There Was Nothing Else They Could Do." Staped to this article was a note: "Compliments of the editors. Your comments are invited."

The Director has inquired "What do we know of Milton Viorst?"

This article calls for a new investigation into the assassination of former President John F. Kennedy, claiming that the findings of the Warren Commission are not compelling and are losing public confidence. The Commission, argues Viorst, was trapped by pervading influences that sought a solution to the assassination which would serve the National interest rather than the truth. The article characterizes the Director and the FBI as part of these insidious influences that destroyed the Commission's "capacity to function as a free agency," and "drove it ineluctably to accept" Lee Oswald as the unassisted assassin.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

According to "Contemporary Authors" (copyrighted 1964), Viorst was born 2-18-30, at Paterson, New Jersey. He is married, the father of two children, and resides at 1725 Q Street, Washington, D. C. Receiving B. D., M. A., and M. S. degrees, respectively, at Rutgers, Harvard and Columbia Universities prior to 1955, Viorst took postgraduate study at the University of Lyon. He served with U. S. Air Force Intelligence, 1952-54, and since 1961 has been a Washington correspondent

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

NOT RECORDED
199 FEB 15 1967

FEB 9 1967

CONTINUED - OVER

JHC:djr
(9)
EB 24 1967

Classified by 3002
Exempt from GDS, Category 3
Date of Declassification Indefinite

4/25/77

CRIME RESEARCH

Original memo in 67

M. A. Jones to Wick memo
RE: Milton Viorst

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for the "New York Post." He reportedly has written several books on political and historical matters, and has done free-lance writing for several national periodicals.

INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

Viorst is possibly identical with a former student at Rutgers University who, with others, in May, 1949, was dropped from a Reserve Officers Training Course for refusing to sign a required certificate denying membership in any organization seeking to alter the U. S. Government by unconstitutional means. (100-361797-1)

During a "prayer walk" conducted outside the White House in November, 1961, by the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell (cited by EO 10450), Helen Sobell, wife of convicted Atom-Spy Morton Sobell, conversed with an unidentified man observed driving a car registered to Viorst. (100-387835-2692, p. 2)

Following the above-reported meeting, our inquiry concerning Viorst determined that he was then the holder of a White House pass as the Washington representative of the "New York Post." He then had employed for him as a General Assistant one Ronald Balin who had twice been arrested by the Metropolitan Police Department for "soliciting for lewd and immoral purposes" and "indecent gestures." (105-104844-3)

Viorst has no identifiable arrest record with our Identification Division, and he has not been the subject of an FBI investigation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. For the Director's information concerning Viorst.
2. That the invitation to comment on the Viorst article be

Ignored.

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