

NOTES ON THE CORDELL HULL FOUNDATION, AND RELATED MATTERS

A) Activities of the Cordell Hull Foundation for International Education (CHF)

Founded in 1951 in Nashville, with Hall's endorsement. Plans announced for studies in international relations at Vanderbilt. (1) First grants to Latin American students for U.S. study in 1953. (2) Political position is good neighbor anti-communism.

At one point, the CHF received funds from the Tennessee legislature, (3) and from Sen. Kefauver (4). In 1955, Gov. Clement (Tenn.), then CHF chairman, spoke at a dinner launching a \$ 10 million fund drive. (5) He later visited Latin America under the auspices of the CHF. (6)

In 1953, the CHF "was transferred to International House in New Orleans, which, for \$1 a year, administers the foundation's grants and loans. The foundation will utilize the experience of the student advisory committees that International House has set up in Latin American countries." (IH had a student assistance program of its own, since 1945.) (5) IH administered CHF scholarships at least as recently as 1963 (?).

It is noted that the CHF is the sort of organization which might receive funds from the CIA. The CHF is not listed in the 1964 "Foundation Directory" (8). Bill Turner of Ramparts says he does not know of any direct evidence of CIA support.

B) Possible connections between Ochsner, CHF, and Shaw

The Trade Mart (TM) is "a privately supported nonprofit organization formed to promote trade through the Port of New Orleans." (9) The TM and IH seem to be closely related. For example, a Houston Post article (10) mentions the "interlocking boards of the two institutions." Also, a speech by Shaw to the Rotary Club of Shreveport in 1956 was entitled "Pan-Americanism and the Trade Mart," but apparently dealt with the activities of IH. (11) He reportedly described IH as an "organization dedicated to the establishment of trade and good will between Latin America and the United States."

According to the Nashville Banner, the current president of the CHF is Dr. Alton Ochsner. (12)

C) Activities of Ochsner and INCA relating to Oswald.

In a letter to the Times-Picayune, Dr. Ochsner, president of INCA, claims that Oswald was "exposed as a Communist" by INCA "about three months before the assassination." (13) According to columnist Henry J. Taylor, "Police Chief Giarrusso credits ... Ochsner with being the first man to uncover Oswald's pro-Communist activities." (14)

When Butler of INCA was to appear with Oswald on Stuckey's program, an unnamed "news source" told Stuckey about news reports that Oswald had lived in Russia. (11H167) Later, Butler gave Stuckey the same information; according to Stuckey, his source apparently was HUAC "or something like that." (11H168) Bringuier confirmed that when he and Quiroga were discussing Oswald with Butler, Butler was trying to contact "somebody in Washington" to get background information on Oswald. (10H42)

Butler was not a witness before the Warren Commission, but a speech he made concerning his encounter with Oswald is in the Congressional Record. (15)

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- (1) New York Times (NYT) My 10, 1951; 34:2.
- (2) NYT, Oct 6, 1951; 31:5.
- (3) Cong. Rec. 1956, article on CHF, p. A942-944.
- (4) NYT, Jan 15, 1952; 12:5.
- (5) NYT, Oct 2, 1955; 34:1.
- (6) NYT, Mar 1, 1957; 8:7.
- (7) Cong. Rec. 1963, p. 23345. (Lengthy remarks by Boggs on 20th anniversary of IH.)
- (8) Published by the Russell Sage Foundation, NY.
Further references to CHF: NYT, Dec 13, 1951; 51:5 ; NYT, Aug 6, 1955; 17:8; NYT, Aug 16, 1955; 14:6; NYT, Oct 17, 1955; 26:1 (laudatory editorial).
- (9) NYT, Mar 2, 1967; 24:3.
- (10) Date not given; reprinted in Cong. Rec. 1955, p. A3280-1 (CHF mentioned).
- (11) Program of the Rotary Club of Shreveport, April 20, 1956. Notes on "Last Friday's Meeting" by Dr. Claude L. LaRue. (B. Lewis has copy.)
Referring to the Latin American countries, Shaw reportedly said, "their lives as nations depend upon us and possibly ours upon them. These countries ... are the results of successful revolutions. Retaining their good will is essential to our welfare, at least.... So by promoting good will we must convince millions of people that our way of life is the best way, remembering that Latin America might easily be the balance of power between Russia and the United States."
- (12) Nashville Banner, May 16, 1967, p. 1.
- (13) New Orleans Times-Picayune, July 8, 1967, p. 8.
- (14) S.F. Examiner, Jan. 2, 1967; Human Events, Jan. 7, 1967.
- (15) Cong. Rec. 1964, p. 21621.