

A-11

To Main Area from Harold Weisberg, JFK assassination records 3/21/79
Referrals -- abuse of by both FBI and CIA
"national security" claims, misuse of
need for references in historical cases

As the enclosed referral slip from #105-82555, Section 217, Serial 5198 shows there was a referral to the CIA. My recollection of the date is about 7/77, or about 20 months ago. There were numerous such referrals. I recall no action by either the CIA, which is stonewalling its own JFK assassination releases, or by the FBI.

Only because the non-secret material is of interest to a student who is using my files as I able to correlate for you that the withholding is allegedly to protect an alleged source, a faker named Gilberto Alvarado Ugarte, sometimes spelled Alvarado

What the CIA and FBI have combined to attempt to protect here is an unscrupulous young man who tried to start World War III over the JFK assassination by a fake any experienced intelligence person should have seen through immediately and any person of normal sophistication would have doubted on first hearing.

Instead, the CIA Mexico City Station sought to further ~~the~~ Alvarado's objectives, sending the fabrication directly to the White House and State (U. Alexis Johnson.) I have been interested in this fabrication for years for this reason.

Although the name was well known the spokesmen combined to con the Church committee into believing otherwise. As I recall the identity is hidden by the initial "D" in the subcommittee's report. This, of course, made the Congress look ridiculous, a not unheard of speak objective.

There are other such fabrications where for a reason not immediately apparent in its reasonableness efforts continue to withhold the names. As I recall your 1/12/79 testimony in C.A. 75-1996, fakers are not automatically entitled to the exemption's protection.

Also attached is a Not Recorded Serial from FBIHQ 62-109090. On it is noted the fact that the original is filed in 105-82555-5158, or the records referred to the never-acting CIA.

How disclosure in the 62 file justifies withholding under the guise of referral in the 105 file is not immediately apparent to me.

The note makes clear that the underlying information was not exclusively the CIA's but was the result of joint CIA-FBI work. In fact, it states that the FBI (quite needlessly) cleaned and condensed the material. There are among the reasons I appeal the withholding under the guise of referral, because referral was unnecessary and not justified. Because of the coming of both the Commission and the Church committee I believe both versions should be provided, in the interest of history as well as a record of abuse of FOIA by the FBI and CIA. I believe also that the earlier withholdings should be replaced. There was no excuse for withholding the name from so many records and making unnecessary confusion thereby.

THIS SERIAL HAS BEEN REFERRED TO
ANOTHER AGENCY AND IS IN A PENDING STATUS:

FILE NO. 105-82555

SERIAL NO. 5158

PAGE NO. 1-10

NO. OF PAGES 10

SECTION NO.

217

CIA 7

REFERRAL

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - J. C. Stokes

October 22, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

OCT 22 11 55 AM '64
 REC'D-READING ROOM
 FBI

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
 General Counsel
 The President's Commission
 200 Maryland Avenue, Northeast
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

In connection with the conversation on October 16, 1964, between Dr. Alfred Goldberg of your staff and Mr. John C. Stokes of this Bureau, there were delivered to the Commission on October 21, 1964, two copies each of a redraft of pages 154 through and including 157 of our summary memorandum dated May 18, 1964, two copies of which were furnished to you by our letter dated October 12, 1964. It is requested that you replace the present pages 154 through 157 in our summary memorandum with the revised pages 154 through 157 which were delivered to the Commission October 21, 1964.

For your information, the revised pages 154 through and including 157 were prepared by us at the request of the Central Intelligence Agency to avoid disclosure of the identity of the complainant in this matter who is referred to in the amended pages as "T-32."

This will confirm delivery to the Commission of the revised pages 154 through and including 157 of our summary memorandum dated May 18, 1964.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

62-144090
 NOT RECORDED
 169 OCT 23 1964

3 OCT 28 1964
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REL:rec (8)

NOTE:

ENCLOSURE

On 10/16 Dr. Goldberg, the Air Force historian who is presently engaged in working up the Commission's exhibits which are to be made public, advised SA J. C. Stokes that the Commission had been requested by CIA not to publicly disclose the name of Alexander Ugarto, the 23-year-old Nicaraguan who on November 25, 1963, walked into our Embassy.

NOTE CONTINUED PAGE TWO.

OCT 22 1964
 COMM - FBI

DS

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

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Honorable J. Lee Rankin

NOTE CONTINUED

in Mexico City and made the wild allegation that he saw Oswald receive \$6,500 in the Cuban Consulate in Mexico for the purpose of killing the President. Alvarado's story was completely discredited. He was given a polygraph examination in Mexico by CIA which showed that he was lying. Carl Legat assisted in the polygraph examination following which Alvarado admitted he was in error.

The Alvarado incident was recorded in detail in Legat's summary memorandum of 5/18, copies of which were furnished to both the Commission and CIA. It was not known to us at the Bureau or to Legat that CIA desired Alvarado's name not be placed in the public record. At the Commission's request, we on 10/12 furnished them a sanitized unclassified version of Legat's 5/18 summary in which Alvarado was identified as the complainant. Liaison Agent Popich on 10/16 checked with Ray Rocca of Office of Deputy Director, Plans, CIA. Rocca said that CIA would prefer that Alvarado's name not be placed in the public record. While the incident is described in some detail in the Commission's summary report, Alvarado's name was not inserted therein. Hence, in view of CIA's request, we have rewritten four pages of Legat's summary memorandum from which Alvarado's name and other data tending to identify him have been removed.

The amended pages were delivered to Mr. Douglas Prather, a member of the staff of the President's Commission on 10/21/64 at the specific request of Dr. Alfred Goldberg of the Commission. Mr. Goldberg explained that the Commission desired to get the revised pages involved to the Government Printing Office immediately for printing.