OPTIONAL PORM NO. 98
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85A GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES COVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (100-10461)

DATE: 3/16/64

FROM .

SAC J. GORDON SHANKLIN

SUBJECT:

LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka IS - R - CUBA

At 2:45 PM today Mr. WILLIAM BRANNIGAN, Section Chief, SOG, called and referred to Dallas airtel, 3/9/64 wherein Dallas justified the retention of Agents on special assignment. Mr. BRANNIGAN stated this could not be handled in this manner; that it would have to be justified by memorandum, with something more in the way of facts and the scope of work on which they are being utilized should be shown. He stated that since the special coverage has been discontinued, Bureau will need strong facts for retention of Agents on special. Mr. BRANNIGAN stated the airtel had come back to him from Mr. BELMONT.

Mr. BRANNIGAN was advised that as of today, we have approximately 60 leads; that SA GAUTHIER is now having to make photographs, etc. and that he is utilizing several Agents. In addition, in the RUBY case, we are having to run down all the telephone numbers the Commission wanted.

Mr. BRANNIGAN then requested that he be called back and a memorandum dictated to his secretary over the phone regarding our estimate of the work on hand requiring special assignment of Agents, and he said also to put the information in the memo on the basis of daily requests we are receiving from the Commission as justification of retention of men.

ADDENDUM: I telephonically advised Mr. BRANNIGAN that a count reflected we have 75 leads in the OSWALD and assassination cases as of this time. I have a total of 24 Agents presently assigned full time to the assassination, OSWALD and RUBY cases. I pointed out the various projects, the fact that we had investigated both the PAINES and the DE MOHRENSCHILDTs, and that we are

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receiving daily additional projects from the Commission, and I can see no let up at this time which would justify my releasing the nine Agents here on special. He stated he would put through a memorandum recommending they remain and indicating that I would re-evaluate the situation on Monday, March 30, and so advise.

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