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Tele. Room

The Deputy Attorney General

- Mr. C. D. Deloach 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan

1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan

December 16, 1969

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. K. M. Raupach1 - Mr. M. J. Rozamus1 - Mr. T. N. Goble

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT FOR RECORDS POSSIBLY CONTAINED IN THE FILES OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

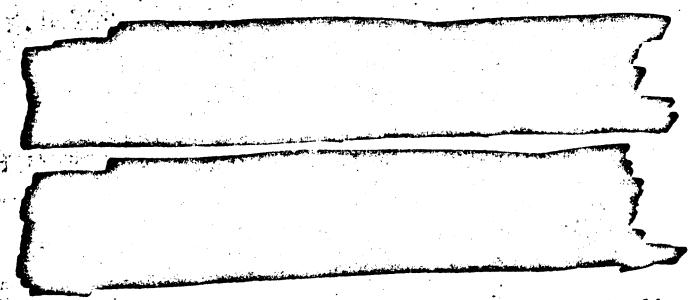
Reference is made to your communication dated December 11, 1969, captioned as above.

We have made a careful review of the records requested by Mr. Hoch and have concluded that disclosure of them to Mr. Hoch would be contrary to the public interest. Several compelling reasons, as set forth below, lead to this conclusion.

Mr. Hoch's request for the first pages of FBI serials lAl through 1A4 of the New Orleans file, 97-74, is based upon the fact that he has observed that FBI Exhibit D-25, the handbill entitled "Hands Off Cuba," is marked with the notation 97-74-1A5. An examination of the New Orleans file, 97-74, reveals that the handbill should have been marked serial 1A4 of the file and not serial 1A5, although when furnished to the file and not serial 1A5, although when furnished to the file and not serial 1A5, although when furnished to the serial by New Orleans, it bore the marking 1A5.

105-82555 Taleon DeLoach Walters . Mohr . TNG:mk1 SECRET Bishop SEE NOTE PAGE THREE Саврег Group 1 Callahan Conred Excluded from automatic downgrading and Z : 5: .: Gale SENT DIRECTOR declaration Sulliva FOR APPROVAL Toval

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None of these three items pertains to Lee Harvey Oswald. All three of them were received in 1961 when Oswald was living in the Soviet Union. Because none of them pertained to Oswald, there was no reason to furnish them to the Warren Commission, and they were not so furnished. The three items were received in connection with our investigation of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and were filed in the New Orleans Fair Play for Cuba Committee file, 97-74. For these compelling reasons, and especially in view of the sensitive source through whom the items were originally obtained by the New York Office, it is our position that theitems should not be furnished to Mr. Hoch.

There are enclosed for your assistance in this matter one copy of each of the serials 1A1, 1A2, and 1A3. There are also enclosed for your information one copy of serials 1A4 and 1A5. Serial 1A4 is the "Hands Off Cuba" handbill, and the original of this is now located in the National Archives, where Mr. Hoch apparently examined it. Sorial 1A5 is a copy of the pamphlet entitled "The Crime Against Cuba" by Corliss Lamont. Mr. Hoch has made prior inquiries about another copy of this same pamphlet, and my letters to the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, dated October 7, 1969, and October 9, 1969, concerned these inquiries. This specific copy, which is serial 1A5, was not furnished to the Warren Commission, although a number of other copies of the same pamphlet were so furnished and are located in the National Archives.

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the file consists of negatives and photographs pertaining to one. These were received by New Orleans in 1964 from the records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and do not pertain to Lee Harvey Oswald. They were obtained in connection with our investigation of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

As I stated at the outset of this letter, I think compelling reasons exist for invoking the exemption provided in the Freedom of Information Act and for denying Mr. Hoch's request since the items involved are contained in investigatory files compiled for law enforcement purposes. I hope the above will be of assistance to you in handling the request of Mr. Hoch.

I am returning to you the original of Mr. Hoch's letter dated December 1, 1969, addressed to Mr. R. Richards Rolapp, together with the two attachments to that letter, Form DJ-118, and the \$3 money order from Mr. Hoch.

Enclosures - 8

NOTE:

See memorandum W. A. Branigan to Mr. W. C. Sullivan, same caption, dated 12/15/69, prepared by TNG:mkl.

obtained from an anonymous source of extreme sensitivity. The unauthorized disclosure of this information could be prejudicial to the defense interests of the nation.

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