

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *W.C.S.*

DATE 4-15-64

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan *W.A.B.*

Presidents

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

Commission

(CLASSIFICATION
SAMP
P.2)

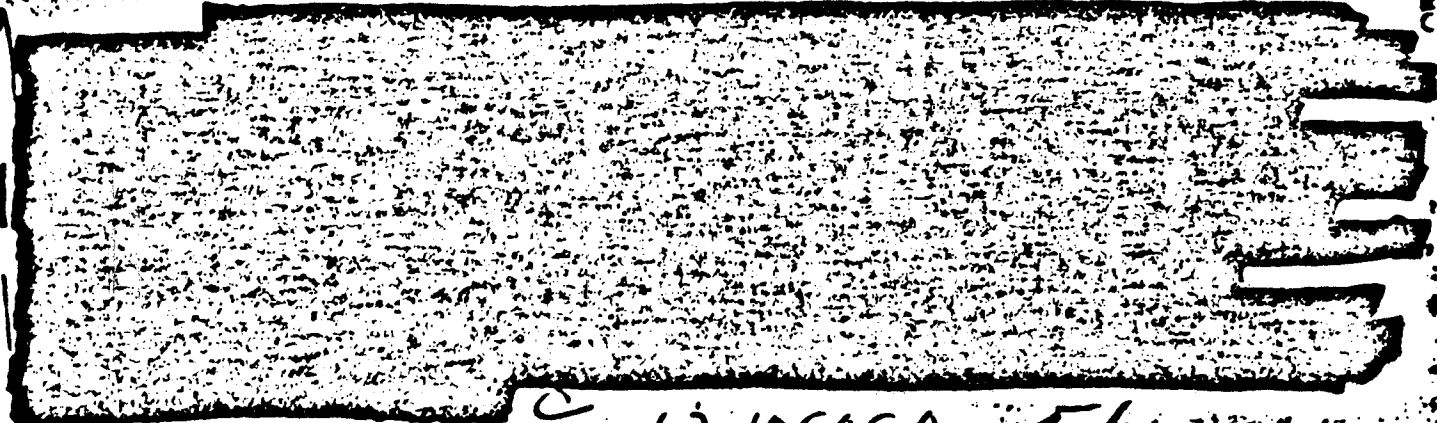
Handwritten notes and signatures:
New York
Rosen
Malley
Sullivan
Branigan
W.C.S.
W.A.B.
W.C.S. Moore
Branigan

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

On 4-15-64 Inspector Malley received a call from J. Lee Rankin in New York City. It will be noted that on 4-17-64 the Commission contemplates interrogating functionaries of the Communist Party (CP) in New York concerning their knowledge of Oswald. *u*

Mr. Rankin made reference to the report of Special Agent Thomas P. Estep dated 12-18-63 at Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Rankin noted that the report referred to a meeting which occurred at Wheeling, West Virginia, on 12-8-63. Mr. Rankin noted that the report was marked "Confidential" and he wanted to know if, in talking to CP people, it would be satisfactory for him to ask questions concerning the details of the meeting without interfering with any of our operations. *u*

The report in question contains information furnished by Confidential Informant [redacted] who advised that Arnold Johnson of New York City, public relations man for the CP, gave a talk dealing with the assassination of President Kennedy. The information, while helpful, does not add anything of particular significance to the Oswald investigation and is generally self-serving to the CP. *u*



- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Lenihan

162-109090-5

NOT RECORDED
199 MAY 4 1964

4/19/64

WAB:jdd
(7)

Handwritten notes:
Memo Room
to Belmont
9/2/64

CONFIDENTIAL

Handwritten signatures:
L. J. [unclear]
Bain [unclear]
J. P. [unclear]

Handwritten: Section 9

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
Re: Lee Harvey Oswald

OBSERVATIONS:

It would be highly undesirable for the Commission to question CP functionaries concerning the particular meeting. Questioning would not add to the investigation of the President's assassination and could only lead to uncovering valuable informants who are enabling us to stay abreast of CP activities in their particular locality. *u*

RECOMMENDATION:

It is, therefore, recommended that Inspector Malley tactfully advise Mr. Rankin that any reference to this particular meeting or the contents of our classified report would tend to uncover valuable informants of the Bureau. *u*

over
N.C. & B.
JHA
gpc

Let the Commission do as it pleases.

CLASSIFIED BY 2040
EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 243
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE
7-8-77
(ALL 2 PAGES CLASSIFIED
SECRET TO PROTECT ACTIVE
CP SOURCES)