Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Mr. Tolson

FROM: L. B. Nichols

DATE: December 23, 1955

SUBJECT:

Warren Olney came by the office to advise me that they had a preliminary interview with [redacted]. The story was in complete contradiction to that given by [redacted] on the matter of making the recordings at the Williard Hotel involving [redacted]. Olney pointed out that [redacted] stated that he remembered making the recording in the Williard Hotel in 1945 or 1946; however, [redacted] stated that the recording was made at the request of [redacted] and that the arrangements for the recording were made through [redacted] and not [redacted]. [redacted] further stated they used a wire recorder rather than a Presto recorder; that as he recalls the arrangements for the recording were made by [redacted]. Stories involving [redacted] had forced several of [redacted] companies into receivership and [redacted] had heard that [redacted] was open to bribes; that [redacted] was running a check on [redacted] and was having him drawn out to see if he would open himself to take a bribe.

Further talked about some former Congressman or Senator who was involved and whom Olney stated they could not make heads or tails out of. [redacted] stated that [redacted] name was mentioned during the recording, but insisted that [redacted] was not involved in any way. [redacted] stated that if the Department wanted to get dirt on [redacted] that he could get it from California with no charge to the Government, but told the Department was not interested in dirt, but was interested in facts.

Olney stated that he had Jack Murphy of his staff up for the interview with [redacted] this morning and then he was going to have Murphy interview [redacted] as somebody is either lying or holding out.

cc - Mr. Boardman
cc - Mr. Rosen
LBN: [redacted]

Memo Mr. Tolson
12-23-55

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Memo for Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols

RE: [redacted]

Olney further stated that he has checked the White House payroll and the only individual who fits or even comes close to fitting the description of the White House intermediary which we reported from [redacted] was [redacted]. Olney wondered if we knew anything about [redacted]. I told him that [redacted] was a bachelor, and who had a very good reputation around town. Olney wondered if our source could get any further information. I told him that if the source could we would let him know. I further told him that [redacted] presently resides at [redacted].