

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 2-25-64

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Malone	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

On February 24, 1964, SA Hanning contacted Frank McNamara, Director, House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA). While talking with him, McNamara furnished Hanning a copy of the first page of the February 12, 1964, issue of "Tocsin" (attached). This is an anticommunist newspaper published weekly in Oakland, California. The feature story on the front page of this paper is headlined "Red-Fronter in Death Probe." The story then relates that Norman Redlich, a Professor at New York University Law School, is acting as Assistant Counsel on the Warren Commission staff and then goes on to list Redlich's left-wing affiliations. McNamara advised that they have quite a bit of information on Redlich in the files of HCUA, and that Chairman Willis was quite concerned and went to the Warren Commission concerning Redlich's appointment as an Assistant Counsel on the Commission. McNamara did not know the individual that Chairman Willis contacted, however, he stated that Chairman Willis was assured that all members of the Commission were "cleared" by the FBI. Hanning advised McNamara that he undoubtedly knew the FBI did not issue clearances or clear anyone.

A review of Bureau files reflects that in brief Redlich was a subscriber to the "National Guardian" in 1953 (cited by HCUA). He has since 1955 been active as a sponsor and/or speaker of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee and the National Committee to Abolish the HCUA. Both of these groups have been cited by HCUA as communist front groups. He has been associated with Harry Magdoff of the Silvermaster case and represented the latter when he was subpoenaed to appear before the HCUA. Magdoff was uncooperative with the Committee.

Actually, on December 22, 1963, a confidential informant of the New York Office advised us that Redlich was working with the President's Commission. It was recommended and approved that a letterhead memorandum concerning Redlich be furnished to J. Lee Rankin by Inspector James R. Malley. Such a memorandum dated December 21, 1963, was furnished to Rankin by Inspector Malley on 1-3-64 (copy attached).

MAR 11 1964

In late January, 1964, we received a Standard Form 86 (Security Investigation Data for Sensitive Position) from the Civil Service Commission on Redlich for processing under Executive Order 10450 (Federal Employee Security Program). While the form

Enclosures

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

Section 7

RECORDED & INDEXED BY
 61-7732-12
 10-44-64

REC-26 62-11110-120

5-att
 2-Hanning

M. A. Jones to Mr. DeLoach memo
RE: PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

lists General Services Administration (GSA) as the employing agency we know Redlich was with the President's Commission and that GSA was acting solely as a "house-keeping unit" for the Commission. It was recommended and approved that since a summary on Redlich had previously been made available to Rankin and GSA, the Standard Form 86 be returned to the Civil Service Commission advising them that the President's Commission and GSA were already in possession of pertinent information from our files and that we contemplated no investigation in the absence of a request.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you (Mr. DeLoach) personally take this matter up with Chairman Willis of HCUA on a confidential basis and brief him on the details set forth above.

[Handwritten signatures and initials]
[Circular stamp]
11:06
12/2/64

1 - Mr. Belmont
 CONFIDENTIAL
 1 - Mr. Mohr
 1 - Mr. DeLoach
 1 - Mr. Sullivan
 1 - Mr. Malone
 1 - Mr. Bland
 1 - Mr. Floyd
 1 - Mr. Hancock

December 31, 1963

NORMAN REDLICH

On December 22, 1963, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that Professor Norman Redlich, New York University expert on Constitutional Law, was working with the committee headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren to investigate the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

In August of 1953 another confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that Norman Redlich was a subscriber to the "National Guardian" at that time. (100-364246-43)

The "National Guardian" of April 25, 1955, contains an item stating that Norman Redlich took part in a forum sponsored by the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee on April 10, 1955. Professor Redlich spoke on the Fifth Amendment, tracing its historical development and describing the official distortion of it, which automatically made an inference of guilt from its use.

The "Washington Post and Times Herald" of January 2, 1961, listed Norman Redlich, Professor of Law, as one of many prominent signers of a recent petition to the House of the 87th Congress to eliminate the House Committee on Un-American Activities as a Standing Committee. (61-7582-A)

In March of 1961 a third confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that Professor Norman Redlich of New York University was one of the speakers at a meeting sponsored by the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee on February 24, 1961. He called for an organized reaction by the people against recent Supreme Court decisions as the most effective way to bring about a change in the attitude of the Court. (100-364246-07) (Kraus)

ORIGINAL TO J. LEE RANKIN, CHIEF COUNSEL, PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Handwritten notes:
 See page 17
 1/17/77
 1/17/77

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- DeLoach _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Mr. _____

IDH:ond
 (11)

CONFIDENTIAL
 [Redacted area with heavy blacking out]

See Note Page 3

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Norman Redlich

In December of 1961 a fourth confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past related that Norman Redlich was one of the speakers at a rally at Manhattan Center, New York City, on December 6, 1961, sponsored by the New York Council to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee. [redacted]

NYairtel 12/26/6

"The Worker" of December 13, 1962, an east coast communist newspaper, contains an article entitled "Notables Donounce Attack on the Peace Movement." The article stated that more than 60 prominent Americans declared in a statement to the House Committee on Un-American Activities "Freedom of ideas has always been a national necessity. In the name of democracy and survival we ask you to cancel the proposed investigation into the peace movement." The list of signers included Norman Redlich, Professor, New York University Law School. (62-107350-A)

In October, 1963, a fifth confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that the name Norman Redlich appeared on a list of sponsors of the National Committee to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee. [redacted] 100-433447-995)

A sixth confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised in 1967 that during that year Norman Redlich was associated in a business way with Harry Magdoff and was highly regarded by Magdoff. [redacted]

62-103661-14)

A seventh confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past stated that in May of 1961 Magdoff selected Redlich to represent him as counsel in Magdoff's appearance before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in hearings concerning the Fund for Social Analysis of which organization Magdoff was President. Records of the hearings before the House Committee on Un-American Activities show that Magdoff appeared on May 31, 1961, in answer to a subpoena accompanied by his counsel, Norman Redlich. Magdoff stated his name, his address and his occupation as a financial consultant. However, when asked to produce the documents which had been called for in the subpoena, Magdoff claimed he did not bring any since he had no such documents. When asked to state whether his signature appeared on a statement

[redacted] 100-364246-97)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Norman Rodlich

of the Fund for Social Analysis naming the officers of the organization, he declined to answer on the grounds of the First and Fifth Amendments. He made the same reply to numerous other questions asked him by counsel for the House Committee. These questions included whether he had been a member of the Communist Party, who the officers were of the Fund for Social Analysis, to whom awards were made by the Fund for Social Analysis and the source of income of the Fund for Social Analysis.

In July, 1948, Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, a confessed former espionage agent, testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities that Harry Magdoff was a member of the Soviet espionage group headed by Victor Perlo and was active in Washington, D. C., in the early 1940's.

NOTE:

This memorandum is classified "~~CONFIDENTIAL~~" since it contains information from informants of continuing value which information if divulged could compromise those informants.

See memorandum Bland to W. C. Sullivan, dated 12/31/63, captioned "Norman Rodlich, Security Matter - C," IDH:cad/scp.

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