

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	
DeLoach	
Mohr	
Bishop	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
Felt	
Gale	
Rosen	
Sullivan	
Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

TO : Mr. Wick

DATE: 2-1-67

FROM : M. A. Jones

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: MILTON VIORST

BACKGROUND:

The Director is in receipt of the February, 1967, issue of "the Washingtonian," which was mailed from the Washington, D. C. headquarters office of that publication. It contains (pp 60-61 & 81) an article by Milton Viorst entitled "There Was Nothing Else They Could Do." Staped to this article was a note: "Compliments of the editors. Your comments are invited."

The Director has inquired "What do we know of Milton Viorst?"

This article calls for a new investigation into the assassination of former President John F. Kennedy, claiming that the findings of the Warren Commission are not compelling and are losing public confidence. The Commission, argues Viorst, was trapped by pervading influences that sought a solution to the assassination which would serve the National interest rather than the truth. The article characterizes the Director and the FBI as part of these insidious influences that destroyed the Commission's "capacity to function as a free agency," and "drove it ineluctably to accept" Lee Oswald as the unassisted assassin.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

According to "Contemporary Authors" (copyrighted 1964), Viorst was born 2-18-30, at Paterson, New Jersey. He is married, the father of two children, and resides at 1725 Q Street, Washington, D. C. Receiving B. D., M. A., and M. S. degrees, respectively, at Rutgers, Harvard and Columbia Universities prior to 1955, Viorst took postgraduate study at the University of Lyon. He served with U. S. Air Force Intelligence, 1952-54, and since 1961 has been a Washington correspondent

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

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Classified by 3002
Exempt from GDS, Category 3
Date of Declassification Indefinite

CRIME RESEARCH

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M. A. Jones to Wick memo
RE: Milton Viorst

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for the "New York Post." He reportedly has written several books on political and historical matters, and has done free-lance writing for several national periodicals.

INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

Viorst is possibly identical with a former student at Rutgers University who, with others, in May, 1949, was dropped from a Reserve Officers Training Course for refusing to sign a required certificate denying membership in any organization seeking to alter the U. S. Government by unconstitutional means. (100-361797-1)

[REDACTED]

During a "prayer walk" conducted outside the White House in November, 1961, by the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell (cited by EO 10450), Helen Sobell, wife of convicted Atom-Spy Morton Sobell, conversed with an unidentified man observed driving a car registered to Viorst. (100-387835-2692, p. 2)

[REDACTED]

Following the above-reported meeting, our inquiry concerning Viorst determined that he was then the holder of a White House pass as the Washington representative of the "New York Post." He then had employed for him as a General Assistant one Ronald Balin who had twice been arrested by the Metropolitan Police Department for "soliciting for lewd and immoral purposes" and "indecent gestures." (105-104844-3)

Viorst has no identifiable arrest record with our Identification Division, and he has not been the subject of an FBI investigation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. For the Director's information concerning Viorst.

2. That the invitation to comment on the Viorst article be

Ignored.

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