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Chronicle

FBI's Private File on JFK

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The FBI kept a file on John F. Kennedy's private life starting in World War II and used it for political purposes even after his death, according to Newsweek magazine.

"The FBI began keeping a file on John F. Kennedy's relationships with women as far back as World War II," the magazine says in its current issue.

Newsweek says the FBI began watching the late president when, as a naval officer during the war, he dated a woman suspected of being a Nazi agent.

"In 1959, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover resurrected and sent the data to Vice President Richard Nixon for use in his expected presidential campaign," Newsweek said.

It added that Hoover also sent the file to Mr. Nixon in the White House in 1971 for possible use if President Kennedy's brother, Senator Edward Kennedy, became the Democratic presidential nominee in 1972.

The magazine said Mr. Nixon and his staff ignored the Kennedy material on both occasions.

Reuters