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ATL-21-75
21 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Atlanta Resident Office

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Andy Warcell

Latest Follow-up to Call-In to Agency Headquarters/John Daniel Williamson, Carrollton, Georgia

REFERENCE: ATL-4-75, 14 January 1975, same subject

1. On 13 February 1975, Special Agent (fmu) Austin of the Special Investigations office of the US Bureau of Customs Atlanta office (Phone: (404) 526-7731) called and wanted to speak to the writer of this memorandum. We were out of town at the time and he asked the secretary, who took his call, to have us return his call Tuesday morning (18 February) when we returned. We called him back the morning of 18 February.

2. Mr. Austin said that the reason he was calling was with regard to a contact he had had from a friend of "Dan Williamson" (the individual who had called our Agency and who was the subject of the above-referenced memorandum). The information that Austin had to impart was essentially as follows:

3. Williamson's friend, who was the one that Williamson called us about with regard to information on the shipment of arms and the impending overthrow of a foreign country (see cited memorandum), had contacted Austin and asked that Austin try to set up a meeting between him (Williamson's friend) and us (Austin and Peterson). He had provided Austin with our name and phone number which had been given him by Williamson. We told Austin that we had only talked with Williamson one time—on the phone—when Williamson had sought to set up a meeting between us and his friend, and that we had never met Williamson's friend and knew nothing about him other than what Williamson had told us on the phone. We told Austin that we had given our name and office phone number to Williamson because Williamson had said his friend would like to get in touch with us, and further told him that since that time (7 January 1975) we had had no call from him—which, we said, seemed strange for someone apparently so eager to contact us. We informed Austin that we often get crank calls and we don't just go around meeting with people who call up on some weird subject. We said that we were sorry now that we had ever given Williamson our number. We also told Austin that the type of information that Williamson spoke of—shipment of arms to other countries—was something entirely outside our area of jurisdiction, and that should Williamson's friend call or had he called we would suggest that he provide his information to the FBI.

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4. Austin said that Williamson, himself, had not been in touch with him. We understood Austin to say that Williamson's friend was a past informer. Austin said that the last time he had talked with him he had told Austin about a "super dope deal" that apparently Customs was never able to confirm. Austin described him as one who seems to have "flights of fancy," and at one point in his conversation with us he said, "I'm really a little leary of the guy." According to what Austin said, Williamson's friend had told him that "they" (whoever "they" may be) were running guns into Nicaragua and into Mexico supposedly through the Port of Laredo, Texas. Austin said that they had had people doing some checking at Laredo and so far nothing had checked out.

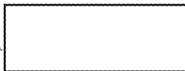
5. Williamson's friend had told Austin that he "was only going to do this (provide information) for the money," and money was discussed. When the figure of \$50,000 was brought up, Williamson's friend indignantly told Austin words to the effect: "I can go to the CIA and they will pay me more than that just for the information." When Austin told him to go ahead, Williamson's friend said "Well, as a matter of fact, this friend of mine (apparently referring to Williamson) already has." Then he asked that Austin as a favor act as a go-between and set up a meeting for him with us. All of which led to Austin's calling us. We reiterated to Austin that we had no desire to meet with Williamson's friend. We hope he will get the message and that will be the end of this waste of time.

6. We explained to Austin our mission as collectors of foreign information, and Austin said that if anything should turn up that would be of legitimate interest to us he would let us know. Austin was very friendly throughout and we thanked him as a matter of courtesy for having gone to the trouble of contacting us.

JOHN R. PETERSON

JRPeterson:mw

cc: Office of Chief, DCD
Support Branch/OSS
Services Branch



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