

SECRET

25 April 1968

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: KAPPES, George Michael - #C 218827

At the request of Mr. Fred Buccì of OS, a review was made of Subject's file to determine if there is any indication of an alleged acquaintance between Subject and one DEBORD (phonetic). The inquiry originated with WH Division who called Mr. Buccì for information because of his past position with Project JMWAVE. Subject was approved as a [redacted] in January 1968. The Division had heard a rumor that Subject was acquainted with one DEBORD (phonetic) who was "close to GARRISON" (District Attorney Jim GARRISON of New Orleans). A review of Subject's OS file proved negative.

The undersigned also reviewed the security file (#C 241598) of Lawrence J. LA BORDE whose son, Michael, furnished information to GARRISON. The results of this review were also negative. (Copy of summary on LA BORDE prepared for the GARRISON Case is attached).

The only similarity of information in the two files which might be considered as a possibility only of such acquaintance is as follows: Subject was employed as a small boat operator with Project JMARC at Key West, Florida from January to September 1961. Lawrence J. LA BORDE was granted a Provisional Covert Security Approval in March 1961 for use as a maritime asset for Project JMATE in the Miami, Florida area.

Mr. Buccì advised he would furnish the undersigned any additional information that might develop that would involve Subject in the GARRISON investigation.

Sarah K. Hall
SRS/OS

Att. as Stated

VPI

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

4/26/68

20 November 1967

SUBJECT: LABORDE, Lawrence J.
(See also HERMING, Gerald Patrick)

ALLEGATION:

Lawrence J. LABORDE, 58 year old former Port Captain, visited the New Orleans DCS office, said he was an ex-CIA employee and feared GARRISON would subpoena him. LABORDE's son, Michael W. LABORDE, had furnished GARRISON information. May be a GARRISON provocation.

CIA CONNECTION:

LABORDE was granted a Provisional Covert Security Approval on 24 March 1961 for use as a maritime asset for Project JMATE. A CSA was deferred pending receipt of additional bio data on Subject. On 24 April 1962 clearance action was cancelled as Subject was no longer of interest to TFW.

SOURCE:

Visit by Subject to New Orleans DCS office in May 1967 and phoned DCS office in New Orleans in September 1967.

OS INDICES RESULTS:

Subject's file reflects little bio data and because of this lack, a request for a CSA on 17 March 1961 for use as a maritime asset on Project JMATE was deferred until receipt of further information. A PCSA was granted on 24 March 1961 for assessment of Subject. On 24 April 1962 the request for the CSA was cancelled because he was of no further interest.

An FBI report of 23 May 1962 said Subject had contacted representatives of the Cuban Revolutionary Council in New Orleans, his home town; had offered his services; and said he had been running a boat out of Key West smuggling Cubans and guns with the knowledge of CIA.

A Miami report of June 1962 disclosed that LABORDE had been employed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Mexico in 1947-1949 but was fired for excessive drinking, discharging unauthorized firearms, and non-support of dependent children.

The New Orleans STATES-ITEM of 23 July 1962 named Subject as the source of bitterly anti-CIA remarks and an article in the DENVER POST of 3 June 1962 also appeared to be based on statements from LABORDE.

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A) FBI report of August 1962 stated that Subject had duped certain persons into buying a schooner, the "Elsie Riechart," by claiming that he and a crew would operate it for Cuban operations which would be paid for by the U. S. Government, although, the Government could not openly acknowledge the support.

DETAILS:

When LABORDE visited the New Orleans DCS office on 11 May 1967, he said he feared that GARRISON would subpoena him and said he was willing to leave the U. S. to avoid a subpoena and that he wanted the DCS office to tell him what to do. Subject's visit was believed to be a provocation by GARRISON in an attempt to entrap CIA into advising Subject to leave Louisiana. This would have buttressed GARRISON's charge that CIA and the FBI are attempting to obstruct the course of justice in New Orleans.