

18 December 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DCD [OSG/OSD]
 ATTENTION : [Craig Hale]
 SUBJECT : Gordon Michael Dwane Novel
 REFERENCE : HH-27696, 10 December 1975

1. I have reviewed the allegations in reference that the British, either British military or British intelligence (otherwise not further specified), have outfitted a converted World War II Liberty ship as a floating display case for British military hardware. I have further checked out the bizarre story in paragraphs two and three of reference concerning use of the British ship by MI-6.

2. This office has absolutely no information to substantiate the story told in reference and Africa Division also has no corroborating information.

3. In short, I consider the story developed in paragraphs two and three of reference highly suspect since I do not believe the British would be able to mount such an operation without it coming to the attention of this office.



C/EUR/BC

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

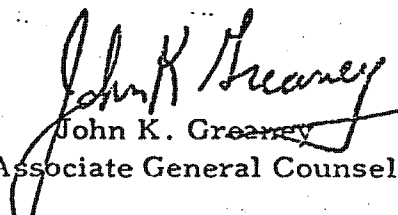
SUBJECT: Gordon Novel

1. [Mr. Peter Houck] resident officer for DCD in New Orleans, telephoned to say that additional problems regarding Gordon Novel had arisen and [Mr. Houck] requested that I call the Assistant U.S. Attorney, Mr. Al Winters, telephone No. (AC 504) 589-2921. On 16 March I called Mr. Winters and he told me that Novel had posted \$40,000 bond and had been charged with possession of a destructive device. However, as they investigated the case there seemed to be more evidence of a conspiracy with other business associates of Gordon Novel, particularly with regard to acquisition of fairly sizable parcels of land in downtown New Orleans including land in the French Quarter. Mr. Winters indicated that his office was beginning to collect evidence of suspicious fires which had occurred on some of this property. Mr. Winters estimated that the earliest trial date for Gordon Novel would be late May or early June.

2. Mr. Winters asked that [Mr. Houck] not discuss the case with Gordon Novel or any of his attorneys. Obviously, Mr. Winters is concerned that such discussions could lead to "Jencks material" and I assured him that it was the Agency position that we did not want [Mr. Houck] talking to any of the defendants or their counsel unless a representative of the U.S. Attorney's Office was present.

3. It would appear at this time that Gordon Novel may subpoena [Peter Houck] as a witness at which time [Mr. Houck] can deny the Agency's approval of Novel's proposal "Project Morningstar." A second possibility is that CIA would have to provide a witness from the Office of Personnel to show that Mr. Novel was never employed by CIA.

4. On March 16, I called [Mr. Houck] and explained to him Mr. Winters' request that he not talk to any lawyers or defendants and [Mr. Houck] readily agreed to comply with this request and said that he would immediately call Mr. Winters if any attempts were made to interview him.


John K. Greaney
Associate General Counsel

cc: Chief/DCD

LA-376-74

1 August 1974

Chief, DSD
Attn: Starling

Chief, Los Angeles Field Office

Movie on CIA and Watergate

A182532

A182533

1. Allan F. Sandler, President of Sandler Tapes and Films, Hollywood, has been approached by Gordon Novell of Dallas (not further identified) who is seeking a company to do the filming for a documentary-type movie on the topic of "the CIA as instigator of the Watergate breakin." Novell claims to be representing, or to at least have the support of, James Colson and Noah Dietrich. ~~He~~ Novell claimed to have the necessary financial backing for the project and is now searching for a good documentary film producer (which is what led him to Sandler).

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2. Novell's intention is to produce an expose-type documentary which shows the CIA as the instigator of the Watergate caper. The only other names he dropped were those of James Garrison (New Orleans District Attorney) and Davin Wynn (not further identified). He claimed to be getting substantive assistance and cooperation from the latter two.

3. Sandler offered to pursue the offer if we desired. We made no effort to encourage him, but thanked him for the information.

RAYMOND G. DURHAM

RDBeske/mb

File: GS/Sandler Tapes and Films

E2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

18-52-10

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~~SECRET 011703Z JUN 75 STAFF~~

~~CITE DCD/WASHINGTON 11352~~

~~TO: DCD/NEW YORK INFO DCD/LOS ANGELES~~

~~FROM DCD/WASHINGTON (RYAN)~~

~~SUBJECT: ¹⁸⁵²¹⁰GORDON NOVEL, LISTED LINE CALLER~~

~~REF: DCD/NEW YORK 22934, 25 JUNE 1975~~

~~1. A SOURCE OF THE DCD/LOS ANGELES OFFICE WAS APPROACHED BY ONE GORDON NOVEL OF DALLAS IN JULY 1974. NOVEL WAS SEEKING A FILM COMPANY TO DO THE FILMING FOR A DOCUMENTARY TYPE MOVIE ON THE TOPIC OF "THE CIA AS INSTIGATOR OF THE WATERGATE BREAK IN". NOVEL CLAIMED TO BE REPRESENTING OR AT LEAST TO HAVE THE BACKING OF JAMES COLSON AND NOAH DIETRICH.~~

~~2. NOVEL ALSO DROPPED THE NAMES OF JAMES GARRISON OF NEW ORLEANS AND DAVIN WYNN (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED). NOVEL CLAIMED TO BE GETTING SUBSTANTIVE ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION FROM THESE INDIVIDUALS.~~

~~3. WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION IN DCD/HEADQUARTERS FILES ON GORDON NOVEL. WE HOPE THAT THIS MESSAGE WILL AT LEAST PROVIDE SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON NOVEL IN THE OFF CHANCE THAT HE SHOULD CALL YOUR OFFICE AGAIN.~~

~~4. FILE: HH-27311. E2 IMPDET CL BY 018877~~

~~SECRET~~