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16 January 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Security Analysis Group

SUBJECT : William George GAUDET

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SF#401 996-B

- 1. On 15 January 1976 the attached article concerning Subject appeared in the Washington Star. The article points out that Subject had received a Mexican tourist visa from the Mexican Consulate in New Orleans, the number of which immediately preceded the number of a tourist visa given to Lee Harvey OSWALD. The article goes on to claim that GAUDET was a CIA agent and claims that the possible relationship between GAUDET and OSWALD was never brought to the attention of the Warren Commission. The basis for the story's claim that GAUDET was a CIA agent appears to be statements made by GAUDET. He indicates in the article that he was associated with the Agency from 1947 to 1969 and gives the impression that he undertook clandestine missions for the Agency in Latin America.
- 2. A review of GAUDET's security file reveals that he is the publisher/editor of a news letter entitled Latin American Report. He was approved for contact by OOC in 1948. In 1950 approval was given to pay Subject for special reports which his newsletter would compile at the request of the Agency. In March 1953 he was again approved for contact by OOC and to engage in discussions with them up to the level of Secret information. The security file does not reflect how long OOC continued to maintain contact with Subject. Furthermore, the security file does not reflect that Subject was ever asked to undertake any clandestine assignments for the Agency. It appears that his only use by the Agency was debriefing of him in regard to his expertise in Latin American affairs.
- 3. GAUDET's security file does not reflect any connection between himself and Lee Harvey OSWALD.
- 4. After the story in the <u>Washington Star</u> was seen on 15 January 1976, his file was ordered from retirement in At approximately 1510 hours on 16 January,

CONFIDENTIAL

E2 IMPDET CL BY 007472 Mr. SPARLING of SRD advised the undersigned that the file had been received. Mr. SPARLING also advised that Mr. Jack DEMPSEY of The Review Staff had called requesting that the file be sent immediately to his office since he and Mr. BOLTEN had a meeting at 1530 hours with Senator SCHWEIKER who is conducting a special Senate investigation into the Kennedy assassination. The undersigned immediately called Mr. DEMPSEY's office and was informed that Mr. DEMPSEY had already left for the Hill. Mr. DEMPSEY's secretary requested that the file be immediately forwarded to The Review Staff, since she expected a call regarding this matter from either Mr. DEMPSEY or Mr. BOLTEN. The undersigned declined to forward the file and informed Mr. DEMPSEY's secretary to have Mr. DEMPSEY call SAG directly in the event that he needed any information from the file.

Raymond M. Reardon Security Analysis Group

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NOTE: Mr. DEMPSEY called at 1630 hours from the Hill and was briefed on the contents of Subject's file.

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