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17 May 1968

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Assistant to the Director  
(Mr. Joseph C. Goodwin)

**SUBJECT:** WOOD, William Clarence, Jr. aka BOXLEY, William

**REFERENCE:** Memo for DCI dtd 19 Jan 1968 from Asst. to the DCI  
(Mr. Goodwin) - Subject: Contacts with Representatives  
of Public Media

On 18 January 1968 Ron OSTROW of the LOS ANGELES TIMES inquired of your office about one William BOXLEY, an investigator for Jim GARRISON, who claimed to be "a former CIA agent". A check of OS indices at that time was negative on BOXLEY.

The Houston Office of DCS by memo dated 26 April 1968 (HOU-80-68) identified BOXLEY as William Clarence WOOD, Jr., a former Agency staff employee. Attached for your information is a summary of information on WOOD which appears in OS records.

Paul F. Gaynor  
Chief, Security Research Staff/OS

Att. as Stated

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9 May 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, LEOB/SRS/OS

SUBJECT: WOOD, William Clarence, Jr.  
aka BOXLEY, William

The attached summary on William Clarence WOOD, Jr. may be of interest to Mr. Goodwin, Asst. to the DCI, and Mr. Hartman of CI Staff who initially had an interest in the results of an OS indices search on "William BOXLEY". The attached original copy of summary is for "The Garrison Case" file and was prepared for the information of the Director of Security in rather complete detail of OS methods at the time. A modified version in blind memo form is attached for distribution outside of Security if deemed advisable. Certain details of OS operations have been deleted in the modified version.

A review of the security file of [redacted] Special Agent, revealed nothing pertinent. His file is clear. Personnel Branch, A&TS/OS informed the undersigned that Special Agent [redacted] is currently assigned to the San Francisco Field Office, GS-13.

Sarah K. Hall  
SRS/OS

Atts. As Stated

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8 May 1968

SUBJECT: WOOD, William Clarence, Jr.  
aka WOOD, Bill  
aka BOXLEY, Bill (See BOXLEY, William)  
aka HANAHY, Owen H. (Agency pseudo)

ALLEGATIONS:

Bill WOOD, who has been identified as William Clarence WOOD, Jr., recently made inquiries about CIA and its operations on behalf of Jim GARRISON at the Hunt Oil Company, Dallas, Texas. WOOD went to work for GARRISON using the name "Bill BOXLEY". (See summary on William BOXLEY).

SOURCE:

DCS Memo Atd 26 April 1968  
from Houston Office (HOU-80-68);  
Subject: Bill WOOD, Agent for  
Jim GARRISON Making Inquiries  
in Dallas.

OS INDICES RESULTS:

Review of Subject's overt and covert security files presents the following chronology of his employment history with the Agency.

In December 1944 Subject was security approved for OSS employment to be used overseas in a writing/publishing assignment. However, he was assigned to combat infantry duties in the Southwest Pacific Area and was not used by OSS. Of interest in his file at this time are memoranda recording a visit he made to the Honolulu Office of OSS in February 1945 in which he told the office how he had been recruited by OSS while attending infantry school at Fort Benning in October 1944; that his services were to be used in originating and conducting radio programs in the CBI theater; that when he did not hear from OSS, he made certain inquiries and found that his record had been very carefully investigated by Dunn and Bradstreet; that he then made a long distance call to OSS Personnel Procurement Office. He was told that temporarily the OSS

CIA CONNECTION:

Applicant for OSS in 1944-45.  
Staff Agent in Saipan, January 1951.  
Returned to U. S. for nervous  
breakdown, March 1952. Approved for  
staff employment with OTH in October  
1952. Asked to resign for continued  
alcoholism in January 1953. Of Contact  
interest in March 1967 but not used.

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was not in a position to avail themselves of his services but he was to keep in touch. The interviewing officer in Honolulu forwarded a report of the visit to the Security Officer at OSS Headquarters with a comment to note the Dunn and Bradstreet leak and that Subject certainly knew more about the inside of OSS than any potential recruit he ever saw and Subject had never been in Washington.

On 13 December 1950 Subject was granted a Covert Security Clearance for use as a Staff Agent with Project TROFUS. He was assigned to the Island of Saipan as Chief Instructor of Clandestine Operations. He reported for duty 8 January 1951 and arrived overseas 12 March 1951. In May 1951 his dependents were issued travel clearances to join him at the Saipan Base. Subject suffered a nervous breakdown in March 1952 and was returned to Headquarters, Washington for medical observation. Examination by the Medical Office in April 1952 concluded that Subject's breakdown was caused by family trouble and overindulgence in alcohol. The Medical Office recommended that he should not attempt any extreme covert work but should only accept either light semi-covert or overt duties for a probationary period of one year, these duties to be performed within the continental limits of the United States. Subject was assigned to OTR as an instructor in the Operations Course in May 1952 and recommended for conversion to staff status after a four-month probationary period. This transfer was security approved in October 1952 and he received his appointment as a GS-11 Training Instructor with OTR (Operations Training Branch).

In December 1952 he was found by an Agency guard lying on a sidewalk near Temporary Eye Building bleeding from the mouth. There was no evidence of foul play and he was taken to Emergency Hospital at his own request.

In January 1953 when he failed to report for duty, representatives from the Medical Office and Security went to his residence at the Lafayette Hotel where they found Subject under the influence of alcohol. He was requested to report for duty the next day; however, a house doctor at the Lafayette Hotel had him removed to Gallinger Hospital for intoxication the next day after a maid found him in a state which she thought was illness. He was released to the 5th Precinct Police and charged with drunkenness. A Security Officer obtained his release.

Subject resigned 27 January 1953 after an interview by a Security representative on 19 January 1953 at which time his resignation was requested.

On 11 July 1953 Subject called the Security Office collect from Dallas, Texas stating he was to have a brain operation on 13 July 1953 at Baylor Hospital in Dallas, Texas and he wanted to know if an Agency representative could be there. Instructions were given to the OS Chicago Field Office by the Deputy Director of Security to have a representative contact the head of Baylor Hospital at Dallas, Texas and advise him that Subject had had access to highly classified information in which the Government had an interest; he had a history of becoming talkative under anesthesia and that personnel in the operating room during the course of the operation should be cautioned not to disclose any information divulged by Subject while under anesthesia.

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On 12 July 1953 an OS Chicago Field Office Special Agent [ ] interviewed Mr. David HITT, Administrator of Baylor University Hospital, Dallas, Texas and requested permission to be with William Clarence WOOD, Jr. during the time he would be under the anesthetic in the operating room on 13 July 1953. Mr. HITT was very cooperative and [ ] also received permission from Subject's doctor, Dr. Albert D'ERRICO and Dr. Earl WEIR, Head Anesthetist at Baylor Hospital, who agreed to cooperate. Two nurses, anesthetists, a Mrs. Sally MOORE and a Helen GORMAN were briefed and promised to cooperate. Dr. D'ERRICO asked Agent [ ] if he should introduce him to Subject and the Agent answered "no". The first words of Subject when he saw his doctor in the operating room were: "Has Washington contacted you, or is there a CIA agent or an FBI agent here in the hospital to be with me during the operation?" Dr. D'ERRICO answered "no" to this question. Subject was put under sodium pentothol so a spinal tap and x-rays could be made. No brain operation was required.

Agent [ ] using the pseudo, Dr. SHAUGHNESSY, was in Subject's room when he recovered from the effects of the anesthetic. Subject's father was also there. (Subject's father, William Clarence WOOD, Jr. is a well-to-do banker; the Lubbock National Bank of Lubbock, Texas.) Subject looked around the room and inquired of his father: "Daddy, has any man besides the medical staff entered this room while you have been here?" The father replied, "No, son, no one has entered the room except the doctor here (referring to Dr. SHAUGHNESSY) and the nurse." After Subject was convinced no government agent was there, he stated he "had served overseas with the CIA and had seen many people killed. The CIA are a bunch of dirty cut-throats and I wouldn't be a bit surprised if they sent one of their men to cut mine. They think they are smart but one of these days in the near future I will show them who is the smartest. They have about 100 GS-14's walking around with their heads shaped like eggs. Daddy, I have been such a failure but after I get well I am going to go back to school and get my degree and fight the CIA with everything that I can."

Subject never became aware of Dr. SHAUGHNESSY's identity. Subject's doctor told Agent [ ] that Subject's trouble was probably caused by the excessive use of alcohol; that if he would talk under the influence of an anesthetic, he would most likely talk when he was under the influence of alcohol.

An FBI report of an Internal Security character dated 30 April 1957 from Dallas, Texas reported that Subject telephoned long distance from Midland, Texas to a Chinese Intelligence officer in Formosa claiming to have been formerly employed by CIA. Subject offered to "help you with things I know". Subject then called a person in Lubbock, Texas believed to be his wife. He told her he had talked with the Chief of Intelligence for Chiang KAI-CHEK in Formosa and that she and the baby will receive \$700 - \$1,000 per month "if this thing goes through". Subject was identified

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in the report as formerly employed by various newspapers; a world traveler and formerly employed by CIA.

Domestic Contact Service requested clearance to use Subject in February 1967 reporting that he had not had a drink in nine years. On 3 March 1967 information from the FBI report and information that Subject was drinking heavily again was forwarded to DCS for their evaluation in determining the extent and level of their use of Subject. Source memo dated 26 April 1968 reports that after receipt of this adverse information, Subject was dropped by DCS as a potential source.

Bio data dated 9 January 1967 reveals that Subject, born 17 August 1920 at Shreveport, Louisiana, resided at 724 International, Apt. FR 9, Houston, Texas. At that time he was employed as Executive Vice President, Houston Tribune Publishing Company, Houston, Texas. In 1954 he was employed by Charles E. ROTH and associates. In 1950 he worked for the DENVER POST.

Paul ROTHERMEL, Security Officer for Hunt Oil Company who was the person approached by Subject recently for information on CIA operations for Jim GARRISON, and who reported the visit to the Houston DCS Office, is a former FBI agent. In March 1959 when the possibility of opening an OS Fort Worth Field Office was being considered, ROTHERMEL was on a list of prospects for recruitment as a [redacted] He was listed as ROTHERMEL, Paul M., Jr., FBI 1950-55, RES: 9104 Leaside Dr., Dallas, Texas; Emp: Field Rep., 700 Mercantile Bank Bldg., Dallas 1, Texas. No other information is given.

OS indices were negative on Clymer WRIGHT and Harold G. PYLE mentioned in Source memorandum.

DETAILS:

See Source memo attached and Summary on William BOXLEY attached.

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VBR