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SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM: Donovan E. Pratt DC/CI/R&A	EXTENSION 1991	NO.
	DATE 23 April 1968	

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
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OGC SUBJECT

KENNEDY ASSASSINATION-GARRISON

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED
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RWR 9/8/97

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23 APR 1968

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Garrison Investigation of Kennedy Assassination:
Marshall Wilson HOUTS

1. HOUTS is the author of the article "President Kennedy's Autopsy Was Bungled", which appeared in the 4 March 1968 issue of Medical Economics. The article is condensed from the book Where Death Delights: The Story of Dr. Milton Helpern and Forensic Medicine. Dr. Helpern, the Medical Examiner of the City of New York, is the actual source of the information. (There is no identifiable record of Dr. Helpern in RID.) HOUTS is the writer.

2. HOUTS is also the source of the following biographic information about himself:

28 June 1919, born in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

1935-1937, attended Brevard Junior College, Brevard, N. C.

1937-1941, attended University of Minnesota (received B.S. and L. L. B.).

May 1941 -- September 1941, PFC, USMC Reserve. (He was attending an OCS, was discharged at his own request to become an aviation cadet, and then was not appointed because of defective color perception.)

October 1941 -- December 1943, Special Agent, FBI (February 1943 to August 1943 in Rio de Janeiro under newspaperman cover. October 1943 -- November 1943 in Havana as an Assistant Legal Attache).

December 1943 -- February 1944, Unemployed.

February 1944 -- March 1944, Operations Agent, Eastern Air Lines.

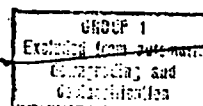
April 1944 -- March 1946, in U.S. Army (served with OSS).

May 1946 -- October 1946, Special Agent, War Assets Administration.

November 1946 -- July 1951, member of firm of Palmer and Houts, Piperstone, Minnesota.

July 1951 -- June 1952, self-employed in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as a salesman and investigator.

3. HOUTS unsuccessfully applied for employment with this Agency in 1952.

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4. According to the description of the author in Medical Economics, HOUTS is the writer of nine other books on legal matters, including an eight-volume work on trauma.

5. HOUTS served with OSS in the China-Burma-India Theater. While in Burma he was asked by his Commanding Officer to participate in illegal activity, because as a former FBI agent he could advise the others involved. HOUTS agreed and actively participated in misappropriation of weapons which were government property. He claimed later to the OSS investigating officer that he had participated in the illegal activity to obtain evidence. However, this claim is weakened by the facts that at one point he deliberately destroyed some receipts which were evidence and he actively participated in the action. The investigating officer recommended that HOUTS be charged with conspiracy, larceny, and misapplication of government property. There is no indication in the record, however, that HOUTS was ever court martialed.

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describes Houts
activity in
Burma.

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