

RETYPE FROM UNREADABLE COPY.

7 October 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
ATTENTION: Mr. Sam J. Papich
SUBJECT: COURT FOSTER WOOD
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

Reference is made to a 25 March 1961 and a 6 July 1961 investigative report on captioned Subject which have previously been furnished to this Agency.

[redacted] who is a current Agency employee, has recently been interviewed concerning his knowledge of Court Foster Wood whom [redacted] had known since mutual attendance in high school. Attached is a detailed report of the information furnished by [redacted] concerning his knowledge of Wood.

Since [redacted] personally has sufficient reason to question the activities of Wood and the activities of the associates of Wood, [redacted] has been advised to discontinue any further contact with Wood.

It would be appreciated if your Bureau would furnish this Agency any additional information brought to your attention concerning Court Foster Wood and of particular interest would be any information received by your Bureau concerning past association of Court Foster Wood with [redacted]

The above information is for your use only and should not be disseminated outside your Bureau.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

R. L. Bannerman
Acting Director of Security

Attachment:
As noted

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107 Oct 1961

TO: The Director
FROM: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
SUBJECT: COURT FOSTER AND
INTERNAL SECURITY - COMM

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Reference is made to a letter dated March 1961 and a letter dated August 1961, both of which were received from the Bureau of Internal Security, New York Office, dated March 1961 and August 1961, respectively. The Bureau of Internal Security, New York Office, advised that it had received information from a source that Court Foster had been advised to discontinue any further contact with you. It would be appreciated if your Bureau would furnish this Agency any additional information brought to your attention concerning Court Foster and of particular interest would be any information received by your Bureau concerning past association of Court Foster and with Federal Security Bureau.

The above information is for your use only and should not be disseminated outside your Bureau.

FOR USE DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION:

R. L. Burman
Acting Director of Security

Attachment:
As noted

CS/SRS/PLS:sect - 16 October 1961

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SUBJECT: Court Foster Wood

[redacted] has recently advised that Court Foster Wood was a relatively close high school friend of [redacted] during mutual attendance at George Mason High School, Falls Church, Virginia, during 1957 to 1959. [redacted] described Wood as an average high school student who had no particular problems with the exception that there were domestic difficulties between the father and mother of Wood.

[redacted] became acquainted with the parents of Wood and made occasional visits to their home during the above period of time. The father of Wood, Foster Wood, is an attorney who was then living in Falls Church. Some time ago the father and mother of Court Wood split up and Court Wood and father moved into an apartment on Columbia Road, Washington, D.C.

[redacted] advised that after graduation from high school in June 1959 he lost any close contact with Wood who then started to attend George Mason College, where he seemed to have an interest in philosophy. [redacted] started to attend a military school and Wood expressed extreme opposition to military schools.

[redacted] married in 1960, which also helped to move [redacted] somewhat out of the social circle of Wood. [redacted] believed that for approximately a year, during 1959 to 1960, he did not actually see Wood but advised that after this period in which he did not see Wood he has had a number of contacts with Wood, many of which occurred during mutual attendance at the University of Virginia Extension School (night school) in early 1961. On one occasion [redacted] attended a party at the apartment occupied by Wood and father at the invitation of Wood, and on this occasion came into contact with the "new set of friends" of Court Wood, whom [redacted] described as being "beatnik types." Girls in attendance at the party, according to [redacted], appeared to be of the "street pickup" type.

After the above party Wood occasionally telephoned [redacted] and about Christmas 1960 Wood called and stated that he was going to Cuba under the auspices of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. [redacted] called on Wood after the return of Wood from Cuba and at that time Wood lauded Castro very highly. The father of Wood was also present and [redacted] obtained the impression that the father was also in sympathy with Castro. [redacted] recalled that he again, at a later date, had visited the Wood apartment, this being an occasion when Wood had been visiting somewhere in Falls Church and contacted [redacted] to ask [redacted] to take Wood home. On this

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[redacted] 3 occasion [redacted] stayed at the Wood apartment for approximately an hour, and advised that on this occasion he observed some Soviet propoganda pamphlets in the apartment, and that these pamphlets had been printed in England. Stratton also observed a number of copies of the USSR map also in the apartment.

[redacted] 2 [redacted] also advised that, as previously indicated, he would meet Wood at the University of Virginia Extension School which was conducting night classes at the Washington and Lee High School. Both Wood and [redacted] 3 were attending the night classes but were not attending mutual classes. [redacted] recalled that on one of the occasions when he had met Wood while attending night classes Wood talked about going to Cuba via Mexico for permanent residence, and made some statement to the effect that he would be willing to renounce his United States citizenship. [redacted] also recalled that he had become a member of the [redacted] and that Americans were afraid of the word "Communism" and were being misled by the newspapers. Wood had complained that the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was unable to obtain press responsibility in the United States.

In June 1961 the [redacted] of [redacted] were reunited and [redacted] did not recall the [redacted] in contact with Wood up until late August or early September 1961. Wood's life during that period in regard to the purchase of a bicycle and other items or through some mutual friends Stratton learned [redacted] and [redacted] and the [redacted] had [redacted] in visiting the wife of Wood, and [redacted] United States and [redacted] the Wood apartment for a party and [redacted] they could meet his wife [redacted] and wife, together with [redacted] and Thomas Varney, Washington Boulevard, Arlington, and had also attended high school with Stratton, the wife of [redacted] 3 [redacted] and Wood, accompanied [redacted] and wife to the above party. The other individuals at the party were of the "beatnik crowd" with several of the men wearing beards, and the girls appearing to be of the "street play" type. In view of this [redacted] 3 wife only remained at the party for a very short time but did meet the wife of Wood. The wife of Wood had been attending Bryn Mawr College and was on her way to attend Bryn Mawr during the school year of 1960-1961. [redacted] 3 stated that the [redacted] of the wife of Wood is still in [redacted] but that they were at [redacted] Wood.

[redacted] 3 [redacted] the party [redacted] Wood [redacted] [redacted] B. J. [redacted] Baker, who lives in Washington, D.C. and who [redacted]

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George Mason College with Wood.

[redacted] also recalled that at the first party which he attended and which was at the apartment of Wood and Straton, David Lichtenman was also present. Later, according to Straton, Straton attended the George Mason High School, or attended the George Mason High School in June 1961.

[redacted] recalled that the name of the wife of Wood is Patricia but did not know her maiden name. At the above party Wood indicated that he was moving to Philadelphia so that his wife could continue her college education, but Straton at the time of the interview did not know whether Wood has actually moved to Philadelphia.

[redacted] said, during conversation with [redacted] made the remark to [redacted] that he, Wood, did not know if his wife was a Communist but she might be. Wood, however, did not mention any of this during the interview.

At the time of the above party [redacted] understood that Wood was employed as a receptionist at the [redacted] but [redacted] could not recall the name of the building. [redacted] also recalled that the [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] and [redacted] was a [redacted].

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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