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No. 233
7 May 1956

COPY

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Security Office

SUBJECT : Commendation of Mr. James O'Connell

1. I would like to take this opportunity to commend Mr. James O'Connell for the excellent manner in which he served WE Division on 6 May 1956.
2. As you know, the son of Mr. James R. Hunt, Jr., Chief of Station, ~~Paris~~, was killed on 5/6 May in Walsenburg, Colorado, in an automobile accident. The CIA Cable secretariat was notified by State and in turn notified Mr. Edwin A. Willard, C/WE/3. Mr. Willard contacted Mr. Hunt's mother on 6 May and offered to be of any assistance whatsoever.
3. At 2000 hours, 6 May, Mrs. Hunt, Sr. telephoned Mr. Willard to say the Hunts were arriving in New York at 0710 hours 7 May. She asked if Mr. Willard could expedite their entry through Customs. Mr. Willard called the Security Night Duty Officer, who apparently called Mr. James O'Connell. Within a half hour Mr. O'Connell telephoned Mr. Willard to say that entry would be expedited and that two Agency cars would be available for transportation. Mr. O'Connell further offered any other help possible. Mr. Willard was thus able to call Mrs. Hunt, Sr. before 2100 hours, 6 May.
4. This prompt action on the part of Mr. O'Connell has been brought to the attention of the Director. It is requested that a copy of this memorandum be placed in Mr. O'Connell's official personnel folder.

GLEN E. MOORHOUSE
Acting Chief, WE Division

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