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DATE: 11-14-2017

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (65-69179)

(JFK) 8/4/98

DATE: 3/5/65

FROM : SAC, WFO (65-9464) (P)

SECRET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

SUBJECT: CHANGED
FREDERICK PALMER PICARD, III,
aka Fritz
ESP - R
(OO: WFO)

AGENCY State
REQ. RECD
DATE FORW. 3-19-65
HOW FORW. by telex
BY WAM/ale

~~Classification
Exempt from automatic
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declassification~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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subject of ADA VIRGINIA ROBARDS located pertinent to your inquiry

Title marked "Changed" because investigation indicates that info in reBulet apparently refers to subject. These names were obtained from State Department records. Title formerly carried as "CHESTER A. PICHARD."

ReBulet 11/25/64, and WFOlet 1/18/65, both of which were captioned "CHESTER A. PICHARD, ESP - R."

Enclosed for Bureau are five copies of LHM captioned "FREDERICK PALMER PICARD, III, aka FRITZ." Therein is set forth info concerning the death of VIRGINIA ROBARDS GOLDSTEIN, the negative check of the name CHESTER A. PICHARD in State Department records and background info re GOLDSTEIN, one CHESTER A. PICARD and FREDERICK PALMER PICARD, III, obtained from State Department records.

Investigation was conducted by SA JAMES F. MORRISSEY with the exception of State Security file of VIRGINIA ROBARDS GOLDSTEIN which was reviewed by SA JOHN J. RADICAN.

As indicated in reWFOlet, details of the suicide of Mrs. GOLDSTEIN and PICARD's connection with same were not to be found in his regular personnel file. Special files on PICARD were located through the courtesy of Mr. PETER SZLUK, Personnel Office, USDS. These were maintained in SZLUK's office and were kept separately from his regular file because of possible administrative action.

In connection with his interview on 3/18, 19/64, PICARD was also asked about his relationship with a Miss LILLIAN SABLACK, a former State Department employee. He claimed she did some typing on a private basis, that his calls to her residence were combination of social and business, that there was no question of physical contact or improper relations. PICARD NCIES

2-Bureau (Enc-5)
1-WFO

JFM:MJB

(3)

ENCLOSURE

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MCT-43

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WFO 65-9464

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apparently was with Miss SABLACK the night of 3/11/64, after the suicide of Mrs. GOLDSTEIN. A communication in file revealed that State had checked SABLACK's security file which contained no adverse information. U

Mr. SZLUK suggested and arranged an interview of Dr. LEWIS K. WOODWARD, Director, Medical Division, USDS, as of possible assistance in this matter. On 1/11/65, Dr. WOODWARD confidentially advised SA MORRISSEY that PICARD was a sick person when he returned to this country from Zanzibar. His understandably stressed condition was aggravated somewhat by his attempt to doctor himself with various pills available. He said that PICARD was presently under the care of a psychiatrist, whose name he was confidentially offering to the Bureau only - Dr. JOHN S. KAFKA, 7834 Aberdeen Road, Bethesda, Md., telephone OL 2-8226. U

PICARD's security file also contained an undated "Limited Official Use" memo for the record which revealed that a Mr. BRUCE VAN VOORST of Newsweek met with Mr. DONHAUSER and Mr. WHITEHOUSE of State on 3/24/64, to discuss questions that VAN VOORST had raised with Mr. WILLIAM LEWIS of INR re the conduct of PICARD in Zanzibar. VAN VOORST said his bureau had received info from a very high level Departmental source that Mr. PICARD had a bad record before his assignment to Zanzibar; that he was an alcoholic; that he had insisted on evacuating his Arab mistress on the USS Manley and that he was undergoing psychiatric treatment. VAN VOORST was informed that PICARD was assigned to Zanzibar on an excellent record; that he was not an alcoholic, although they understood he drank more than an average officer would, but his performance was good. They drew attention to PICARD's success in negotiations re a tracking station and his handling of Zanzibar's independence. The evacuation of the lady was justified. They admitted rumors of a mistress, and said that PICARD suffered nervous exhaustion as a result of his Zanzibar experiences and was brought back to the Department. U

Mr. VAN VOORST said the key element of the story was PICARD's suitability for his Zanzibar assignment. If he had a good record, subsequent nervous condition was understandable under the circumstances. He said he would report to Mr. BENJAMIN BRADLEE (the Newsweek Bureau Chief) whose story this was and it seemed likely BRADLEE would drop it. The above is being set forth for the information of the Bureau. U

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With respect to PICARD's actions in Zanzibar, an Official Informal Limited Official Use communication intended for addressee only from Ambassador WILLIAM LEONHART, indicated that PICARD conducted himself with courage and spirit; that the American civilians who were evacuated on the USS Manley were full of praise for him; that the four American newsmen whom he protected on 1/15 and 16/64 spoke with admiration for his efforts. PICARD was clearly not making responsible decisions during these five days but LEONHART did not believe any real damage to our interests resulted. In another communication, LEONHART said PICARD made the right decision at the right time. U

PICARD's security file contained a memo of conversation dated 3/14/64, between PICARD and JOSEPH PALMER, II, Director General of the Foreign Service. The conversation occurred on 3/12/64. Mr. PALMER told PICARD that Department wished to be entirely fair with him in investigating and passing judgment on the questions which had been raised about his conduct and behavior; that PICARD was complicating his own case by recent activities such as the involvement in the GOLDSTEIN case and several reports of his drinking. Mr. PALMER urged PICARD to return to the hospital for further observation and psychiatric care. PICARD said he would not go to the hospital since he felt it degrading; that his own psychiatrist, a Dr. RUBIN, thought he was making progress and did not regard further hospitalization as necessary. He claimed he was purely a victim of circumstances in connection with the GOLDSTEIN affair. He admitted he had been drinking fairly heavily, was under heavy strain. He made clear his resentment of not getting any recognition for his performance during Zanzibar events. The memo indicated that PALMER had the impression of PICARD as a sick man who was undergoing great psychological stresses and strains; that PICARD's bitterness at Department's lack of recognition in his performance during the Zanzibar evacuation seemed to color his entire attitude. U

On 12/11/64, PICARD's Foreign Service Record indicated he applied on 3/29/55 for Russian language and area training. He noted that he had been studying Russian with the assistance of his wife, who majored in Russian at Middlebury College. She is SHOANA J. EDGAR PICARD, born 9/22/30, United Kingdom. His security file indicates she attended that college from September 1947 to June 1951 as a major in Political Science and Russian. She received AB Degree cum laude in Russian. U

MRS. FREDERICK PALMER PICARD, II

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PICARD's security file also indicated he was investigated in 1952 in connection with State employment. This investigation indicated his father had a record of hospital commitments for dipsomania and had been or was addicted to the use of drugs. The father is now deceased. U

His security file also contains an evaluation worksheet of 8/26/54/9/27/54. It was noted that he was asked what his attitude was toward military service. He replied he would accept it as a duty as a citizen, but was not looking forward to it and hoped he would not have to serve. U

Routine attempts to locate the security files of GOLDSTEIN and PICARD met with the reply that Mrs. ANNA WUENSCHEL State Security, advised Security declined to make its files on her and PICARD available to anyone, referring inquiry to the Office of Personnel. The security files were made available, however, through the courtesy of Mr. WALTER JESSOP of State Security. Delay was experienced in PICARD's case since his case is presently up for administrative action by State Security in connection with revalidating his clearance and an overall evaluation of his status with State Department. U

Mrs. GOLDSTEIN's security file was sealed, and administrative clearance was necessary for it to be opened for review. The file was sealed at her request in accordance with allowable procedure. The reason apparently for same is that Mrs. GOLDSTEIN had a child born "out of wedlock" after her first marriage ended in divorce. The file contained no other information pertinent to the allegation involved, and the above is not being set forth in LHM in the interest of good judgment and discretion. It was noted, however, in a CCC investigation that her given name at birth was ADA VIRGINIA ROBARDS which she discontinued at an early age for reasons not set forth. U

PICARD's present psychiatrist described by Dr. WOODWARD previously, is JOHN S. KAFKA, 7834 Aberdeen Road, Bethesda, Md., telephone OL 2-8226. U

WFO files contain a closed case entitled "MARION I. KAFKA, aka Mrs. JOHN S. KAFKA, IS - R" WFO file 105-50426. WFO letter dated 12/4/62 to the Bureau contains all pertinent info. It indicates that on 9/14/62, [WF 279-S*] advised that MARION KAFKA, telephone OL 2-8226, contacted GALINA V. VASILEVA, wife of U

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YURI P. VASILEV, Second Secretary, Economics Division, Soviet Embassy, concerning a woman from the Soviet Embassy to teach Russian to a group of six or eight women. It was desired that the lessons be given in the home of one of the women. Source indicated that MARION KAFKA had previously spoken to someone at the Soviet Embassy about this matter and was given VASILEVA's name. Source advised that VASILEVA was unable to give an answer to the inquiry at that time and stated she would contact Mrs. KAFKA at a later date. Credit Bureau record check at that time disclosed 1957 credit report for JOHN SIMON KAFKA and wife MARION, residing 7834 Aberdeen Road, Bethesda, Md. He was employed as resident physician at Chestnut Lodge, Rockville, Md. since 1957. WFO expressed the opinion Mrs. KAFKA naive or misinformed, and since husband member of the medical profession, no further inquiry considered necessary at the time. (S)(u)

The enclosed LHM classified "Confidential" since various communications in State Department files of PICARD are classified Limited Official Use. Further, it reflects our investigative interest in a foreign power. — ✓

On 3/3/65, Mr. WALTER JESSOP, Office of Security, USDS, telephonically asked SA JAMES F. MORRISSEY, WFO, if Bureau had open case on PICARD. He explained that PICARD was now up for current evaluation of his clearance and status, hence his inquiry. JESSOP was advised of the original info attributed to the informant of unknown reliability. In view of the request of the Bureau made infra, the Bureau's attention is directed to the fact that State may inquire about the results of this investigation or wait to include it in its evaluation of PICARD. ✓

ANALYSIS

It is apparent from the enclosed LHM that the authenticity of the original information is questionable. It appears that FREDERICK PALMER PICARD is intended by the reference to CHESTER A. PICHARD, for whom there is no State record, or a confusion between CHESTER A. PICARD and PICARD. The information also indicates that Mrs. GOLDSTEIN had acquired certain confidential information and that it was indicated that this information concerned LEE HARVEY OSWALD and the assassination. It would seem likely that during the course of the LEE HARVEY OSWALD and assassination investigation, almost unparalleled in Bureau history, that any information Mrs. GOLDSTEIN had possessed

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DATE: 11-14-2017



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535
March 5, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

FREDERICK PALMER PICARD, III
ALSO KNOWN AS FRITZ
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

BASIS OF INVESTIGATION

The following information was received at the
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C.:

Virginia Goldstein (nee Robards) was found dead
in her home by Chester A. Pichard, reportedly a State Depart-
ment employee. According to newspaper accounts, her death
resulted from a gunshot wound and was reported to be a suicide.

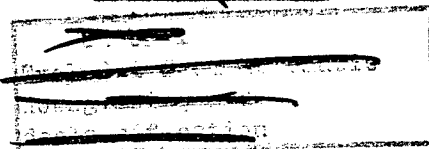
An informant of unknown reliability has alleged that
Pichard and Mrs. Goldstein were involved in a sex liaison and
that Pichard was suspected of being an agent of Soviet
Intelligence. This same informant indicated that Mrs. Goldstein
had acquired certain confidential information, details of which
were unknown to the informant. It was indicated, however, that
this information concerned Lee Harvey Oswald and the assassination
of the late President Kennedy.

Mrs. Goldstein's husband is reportedly connected
with the Navy Department and was also alleged to be a long-
time patient in New York Hospital, New York City.

The following background information was furnished
concerning Virginia Goldstein:

She was allegedly born in Missouri, July 25, 1927,
and entered the employment of the U.S. Government as a clerk-
stenographer, Social Security Administration, in 1944. She
allegedly resigned in 1945 and was re-employed as a secretary
in the U.S. Foreign Service. It was indicated that she had
served in Egypt, France, India, and Morocco, and that she was
re-assigned to the State Department in September of 1959, where
she remained until June 1963. She was reportedly transferred to
the Office of Executive Director, Bureau of Security and Consular
Affairs, as Personnel Specialist.

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ENCLOSURE

