

---

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI  
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10224-10242  
RECORD SERIES : HQ  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 64-23999-9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14

---

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
FROM : SAC, NO  
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
  
TITLE :  
  
DATE : 02/08/1968  
PAGES : 27  
  
SUBJECTS :  
WGG, AKA, ASSOC, REL, BKG, EMP, B/F INT, RCK  
  
DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
CLASSIFICATION : Secret  
RESTRICTIONS : 1B; 4  
CURRENT STATUS : Redact  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 04/29/1998  
  
OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF CIA  
  
COMMENTS : INC 6 MEMO

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (64-23999)

DATE: JUN 27 1968

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FROM : SAC, WFO (134-8002) (P) (X)(u)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM GEORGE GAUDET - PSI  
IS - LATIN AMERICA  
(OO:NO)

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~DATE 9/15/83 BY SP-4 EMB/HK~~

ReWFOlet to Director dated 5/13/68 and BAlet to  
Director dated 5/13/68.

DECLASSIFIED BY 9512 GLH/AHR

ON 12/4/84 BY SP-4 EMB/HK #211,326

On 6/10/68, the files of the Office of Security,  
USDS, concerning the subject were reviewed by SA JAMES F.  
PRICE. These files contained the following pertinent  
information:

Classified by SP-4 EMB/HK  
Declassify on: OADR

By communication dated 3/18/63, Representative  
HALE BOGGS, Congress of the United States, wrote to ROBERT J.  
TEPPER, Officer in Charge, Caribbean Affairs, USDS, con-  
cerning the subject. BOGGS advised that he thought a  
proposal by the subject concerning a "Report on Haiti" had a  
great deal of merit and he hoped the department would con-  
sider the subject's proposal favorably. In writing to  
TEPPER, BOGGS described the subject as "our mutual friend."  
It was noted that the file contained communications from  
the Department of State to various US Embassies in Latin  
America concerning trips throughout Latin America by the  
subject. These communications were sent in 1951, 1952, and  
1957, and requested that the various embassies extend the  
usual courtesies to the subject. In these communications  
the subject was described as the editor of Latin American  
Reports.

By communication dated 7/7/47, WALTER J. DONNELLY,  
U. S. Embassy, San Jose, Costa Rica, advised the USDS of the  
recent visit of WILLIAM G. GAUDET, President of Latin American  
Reports, Incorporated, New Orleans, Louisiana, to San Jose.

Bureau

New Orleans (134-976) (RM)

WFO

REC-14

(RM)

(X)(u)

EX 101

17 JUN 28 1968

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan **LATIN-AMERICAN**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-3-94 BY SP-8 mac/KSR  
(JFK)

REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE/TE AGENCIES  
DATE 12/4/84 BY SP-4 EMB/HK

RELEASE IN FULL

RELEASE IN FULL  
TOTAL DENIAL



5010-108

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DONNELLY described GAUDET as the former Executive Secretary of the Coordination Committee in Costa Rica. The communication advised that in addition to obtaining information for the Latin American Report and attempting to sell the service to the Government and Costa Rican businessmen, GAUDET was also interested in obtaining information about iron ore deposits in Costa Rica. The communication indicated that GAUDET was obtaining this information on behalf of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation. In the communication, GAUDET was described as having a wide circle of friends among Costa Rican businessmen.

By communication dated 6/6/45, HALLETT JOHNSON, U.S. Embassy, San Jose, Costa Rica, advised the USDS of the efficient work done by WILLIAM G. GAUDET as Executive Secretary for the Coordination Committee for Costa Rica and Press Field Representative for Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. The communication commented that GAUDET had been efficiently carrying out the press, radio and moving picture programs.

By communication dated 5/18/46, GEORGE F. SCHERER, U.S. Embassy, Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic, advised the USDS of the recent visit of WILLIAM GEORGE GAUDET, correspondent of World Report. World Report was described as a new publication of international information sponsored by the United States News of Washington. The communication described GAUDET as formerly having been employed with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. It noted that GAUDET attempted without success, to interview President TRUJILLO. The communication noted that World Report will not adopt a sympathetic attitude toward the dictator TRUJILLO as long as GAUDET represents its interest in the Caribbean. It was noted that this communication was classified "Confidential." (S)(u)

The file contained no additional pertinent information.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

WFO [134-8002] (X)(u)

LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will report pertinent information from NIS files  
when available for review.

INITIALS 1/10/68

- 3 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, New Orleans (134-976) (X)(u)

6/28/68

EX-115  
REC-123  
Director, FBI (64-23999) -13

1 - Mr. H.W. Little

WILLIAM GEORGE SIDNEY GAUDET  
IS - LATIN AMERICA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

12/14/82  
Classified by 9442 GLH/AHR  
Declassify on: OADR  
12/4/84 SP6 BTJ/GCL

Reurlet of 6/14/68.

A review of the investigation in this matter discloses that on 11/6/67 confidential informant NO 1488-S reported that well-placed personnel with the United Fruit Company, New Orleans, Louisiana, regard the subject as an opportunist who probably cannot be trusted. It was stated that while subject has written articles favorable to the United Fruit Company, on the other hand he has threatened personnel of that concern with adverse publicity unless the concern furnished him certain information he desired. It was the consensus of opinion within the United Fruit Company the subject cannot be trusted and he will use any set of circumstances to gain information for his publication. (X)(u)

A Bureau SIS representative in the American Embassy, San Salvador, El Salvador, on 5/1/43 reported to the Bureau that Gaudet and one Richard Briggs, who were then with the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs in San Jose, Costa Rica, had acted in an indiscreet manner in discussing in public places business matters which conversations were overheard. Furthermore, they disclosed to persons regarded as almost strangers that a Bureau Agent was connected in an undercover capacity with the American Embassy in Costa Rica.

It is further noted that subject has been involved in two divorce proceedings; was sued on several occasions for back alimony payments; was regarded in the past as a poor credit risk; and in the late 1950's was a near alcoholic.

Accordingly, your request to designate Gaudet as a PSI is denied; however, you may use him as a source of information. In this regard, however, you are instructed (X)(u)

2 - WFO (134-8002) (X)(u)

HWL:wmk  
(6)

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 MAC/KSR  
ON 9-3-94 (JFK)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

CONFIDENTIAL

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NO [134-976] (A)(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECRET

Pa., as a free-lance journalist and then later returned to New Orleans where he was connected with the International News Service. In 1937 GAUDET was stationed with International News Service in Atlanta, Ga., and remained with International News Service until 1942 when he was appointed correspondent in the Inner-American Affairs Department with the United States Government. New Orleans files do not contain any information as to the significance, if any, of GAUDET's contact with BERNARD S. REDMONT.

(C) 2) [332] WFO airtel to Bureau, 12/2/55, reported that WF 323-S advised on 11/30/55 that an opposition newspaper to the present Costa Rican Government published an editorial quoting from a "Latin American Report" prepared by WILLIAM GAUDET. The "Report" stated that a revolution would occur in Costa Rica within 60 days. WF 323-S stated that GAUDET (C) lives and works out of New Orleans and that while the source did not know where GAUDET obtained his information, that in the past GAUDET's information had been remarkably accurate. (C)

Bureau letter to New Orleans, 11/7/67, discloses that the Bureau's representative attached to the American Embassy at San Salvador, El Salvador, had been advised in 1943 by a source that subject, during a visit to San Salvador, had earned himself the reputation of being outspoken and indiscreet in matters of a confidential nature.

NO 1488-S advised on 11/6/67, that he had made inquiries with well placed individuals within the United Fruit Co. in New Orleans and these individuals advised that WILLIAM GAUDET, publisher of "Latin American Report," has been a reporter in the tropics for over 20 years. These individuals described GAUDET as an opportunist who probably could not be trusted. While GAUDET has written articles favorable to the United Fruit Co. concerning its operations in Latin America, he has on the other hand threatened United Fruit personnel with adverse publicity if United Fruit did not furnish GAUDET with certain information he desired. (X)(u)

It is the consensus of opinion within the United Fruit Co. that GAUDET should probably not be trusted since it is felt that he would use any set of circumstances to his own end for purposes of gaining information for his publication. (X)(u)

SECRET

-2-  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NO [134-976] (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECRET

Source advised he is not personally acquainted with GAUDET and knows him only by reputation following his inquiries as set forth above.

Source stated that there has apparently never arisen a question of GAUDET's lack of patriotism to the United States and that the only question concerning him is his lack of business ethics.

NOTE: Para 3  
declassified  
per CIA let.  
10/24/83  
also 4/15/83  
Bureau letter to New Orleans, 12/8/67, advised that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) on 12/1/67, reported that GAUDET was utilized as a source of foreign positive intelligence information during 1953. Further, GAUDET has not been used as a source by CIA since 1953; has never been utilized in an operational capacity by CIA and CIA does not possess any derogatory information concerning GAUDET. (S) (X) (X)

PSI RICHARDO J. ROBLES, who furnishes information concerning Latin America, on 3/7/68, was unable to furnish any pertinent information concerning GAUDET. Likewise during February and March, 1968, the following PSI's could furnish no information concerning GAUDET: (X) (u)

[REDACTED] (C)  
CARLOS DE LA VEGA

[REDACTED]  
Former NO 886-R (X)

OTHER 4, 1B

NO 1213-S advised on 2/23/68, that GAUDET was an alcoholic, or close to being an alcoholic, in the late 1950's. GAUDET drank very heavily and had financial problems during this period. He once wrote an article for Dictator TRUJILLO, then head of the Santo Domingo Government. This article was very pro-TRUJILLO and was believed to have been dictated by TRUJILLO or one of his right-hand men. (X) (u)

Source described GAUDET as easygoing and a competent writer. He is still believed to be with the "Latin American Report;" however, he may do some free-lance writing under a pen name.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECRET



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECRET

This motion alleged that defendant GAUDET was delinquent in his alimony payments in the amount of \$150. Defendant was ordered to show cause on 12/19/58, why he should not be in contempt. No disposition to this motion is contained in the file.

The file contains a second motion entered by Attorney PITARD on behalf of OLIVE FLEURIET under date of 4/20/60, requesting that GAUDET show cause why he is not in contempt for being behind in alimony payments in an amount believed to be \$575. A notation in the file notes that this second motion was "dismissed by agreement." The file contains a dismissal decree under date of 4/30/60, by Judge LUTHER HALL with judgment in favor of OLIVE FLEURIET in the amount of \$400 for past due alimony through 4/30/60. No further entries noted in this file.

As noted above, the current New Orleans city directory lists CORAL K. GAUDET as the wife of WILLIAM GEORGE GAUDET. No information has been received to indicate that PSI is experiencing current marital difficulties. It is to be noted that during contacts with GAUDET at his office, the contacting agent has been present when GAUDET was telephonically contacted by his wife. GAUDET at these times gave no indication he was other than happily married. (X)(u)

GAUDET since originally contacted has furnished some information concerning activities of interest in Latin-American countries to the Bureau. This information has been furnished to the Bureau in appropriate dissemination form. Since this PSI has been contacted, it is noted that he has periodically traveled to Latin America and it is felt that as he continues to be developed that he will be able to furnish information of interest concerning Latin American countries. (X)(u)

GAUDET made a business trip to British Honduras (Belize) during the Christmas Holidays, 1967, and upon his return furnished to this office information concerning indications that a leader of the National Intelligence Party of Belize was working with the Cuban Government to the end that friction might result between Belize and Guatemala. In addition, GAUDET interviewed the British Governor in Belize, a personal friend, in connection with this matter and information was obtained from the British (X) ↓ (u)

SECRET

-9-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



NO [134-976] (S)(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

Governor that he had suspicions that a courier route existed from Cuba into Mexico and into Belize. This information was furnished to the Bureau by LHM under date of 1/5/68. (S)(u) ↑

On 3/15/68, GAUDET furnished information concerning JORGE RABAH MUNIR, a naturalized Honduran citizen, who had entered the United States in the alleged possession of over one-half million dollars reportedly obtained by embezzlement in Honduras. Source obtained his information concerning this matter from the Consul General for Honduras in New Orleans. This information was furnished to the Bureau by LHM dated 3/18/68. (S)(u)

GAUDET's business office is located in the International Trade Mart Building where numerous consuls/generals from Latin American countries also maintain their offices. GAUDET possesses a close personal friendship with many of these consuls. [It is anticipated that as time passes he will be able to furnish pertinent information through these contacts as well as information obtained as the result of his frequent travels to Latin American countries.] (S)(u)

It is to be noted for example that GAUDET since the latter part of May has been visiting Venezuela and as of this time is still somewhere in Latin America.

It is recommended that GAUDET be designated as a PSI of this office. (S)(u)

-10\*-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (64-23999)

DATE: 5/13/68

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (134-2199) RUC

SUBJECT: WILLIAM GEORGE GAUDETTE - [PSI]  
IS - LATIN AMERICA  
OO: New Orleans

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/15/83 BY SP-4 ELW/JHF~~

Rebu routing slip, 4/9/68, enclosing for Baltimore and WFO  
New Orleans letter to Bureau, 3/29/68.

DCII, Fort Holabird, Maryland, checked 5/1/68 for SA JAMES  
E. BARRETT, reflects USAIRR file #X8-298268 and NIS file #  
S/NONI-56-R064BS re subject.

The USAIRR file, Fort Holabird, Maryland, was made available  
and reviewed on 5/9/68 by SA BARRETT. This file contains  
a memorandum dated 3/15/49 showing that on 2/11/42 WILLIAM  
GEORGE SIDNEY GAUDETTE, born 9/21/09 in St. James, Louisiana,  
was cleared by the Intelligence Division of the Army for an  
overseas assignment in connection with his employment as a  
Wire Service Man for the International News Service in New  
Orleans. The memo also shows that a Lt. Col. EDGERTON, who  
knew GAUDETTE slightly during the Louisiana Maneuvers, thought  
highly of him as a newspaperman. The file contains no other  
pertinent information.

WFO review above-listed NIS files for pertinent information  
re subject.

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE~~

~~Classified by SP-4 ELW/JHF  
Declassify on: OADR 4/19/83~~

- 10 (2) - Bureau (REGIS.MAIL)  
2 - WFO (REGIS.MAIL)  
1 - New Orleans (134-976) (REGIS.MAIL)  
1 - Baltimore  
JEB:df1  
(6)

REC-74

MCT-28

12 MAY 14 1968

DECLASSIFIED BY 7442 GLH/PAH  
ON 12/15/83

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 4/12/83

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-3-94 BY SP8 MAC/KSR  
(JFK)~~

54 MAY 27 1968

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (64-23999)

DATE: 5/13/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (134-8002) (P)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM GEORGE GAUDET - [PSI] (u)  
IS - LATIN AMERICA  
(OO:NO)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ReNOlet to Director dated 3/29/68.

On 5/6/68, SA WILLIAM E. TRAINOR, JR., caused a search to be made of the files of the Bureau of Personnel Investigations, CSC, and was advised that their files contained no record concerning the subject.

LEADS:

WASHINGTON FIELD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9-3-94 BY SP8 MAC/KSE  
(JFK)

AT WASHINGTON, D. C. Will report results of out-  
standing agency checks at U. S. Department of State.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF CLASS.  
DATE 4/20/83 bmf

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP4 LWW/THP~~

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - New Orleans (134-976)
- 1 - WFO

JFP:vah  
(5)

DECLASSIFIED BY 7542 GLH/AHR  
ON 12/15/83

12/4/84 SP6 BJA/GCL #211,326

Classified by SP-REC/JHF  
Declassify on: OADR 9/19/83

REC-34

EX 106

64-23999-11

6 MAY 14 1968

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~LATIN AMERICAN~~



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

NO [134-976'] (X)(u)

CONFIDENTIAL

Dun and Bradstreet Report

A Dun and Bradstreet report in the name of ~~Latin American Reports, Inc.~~, under date of 4/25/67, lists the following individuals as officers of this corporation:

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| W. G. GAUDET     | President      |
| R. L. EMERY, III | Vice President |
| W. GERALD GAUDET | Secretary      |
| SIDNEY TOCA      | Treasurer.     |

LA

The report discloses that the corporation was chartered in 1946, and that during 1965, past due debt accumulated, some of which remains outstanding but is being reduced to some extent.

This report describes GAUDET as having been born in 1909, in St. James Parish, La., and, for a number of years prior to 1941, having represented the UP and the International News Service in Mexico and Latin America. GAUDET is described as having been employed by the Foreign Service Department of Latin America, US Government during World War II.

Contacts with Informants

The following informants have advised that they possess no information or at least no pertinent information concerning GAUDET:

Former NO 886 - S  
PSI RICHARDO J. ROBLES  
PSI [ ] (C)  
PSI CARLOS DE LA VEGA  
PSI [ ] (X)

OTHER 1B

OTHER 4

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (64-23999)

DATE: 2/8/68

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-976) (P)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM GEORGE GAUDET  
[PSI] (X)(u)  
IS - LATIN AMERICA  
(OO: NEW ORLEANS)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classified by SP4 elw/ah  
Declassify on: OADR  
5-20-83

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 4/12/83

Classified by SP-4 elw/JHX  
Declassify on OADR  
4/15/83

Re New Orleans letter dated 11/8/67 and Bureau letter dated 12/8/67.

Investigation to date concerning background of PSI is favorable with the following exceptions: (X)(u)

1. Bureau letter of 11/7/67 disclosed that the Bureau's representative in San Salvador, El Salvador, had been advised in 1943 by a source that [PSI] in a visit to San Salvador had earned himself the reputation of being very outspoken and indiscreet in matters of a confidential nature.

2. NO 1488-S has advised that discreet inquiries conducted by him with selected key personnel in the United Fruit Company where NO 1488-S is employed, received an analysis of the PSI as an opportunist who could not be trusted and that while the PSI had written favorable articles regarding United Fruit operations in Latin America he had also on occasion threatened United Fruit Personnel with adverse publicity if United Fruit did not furnish PSI with desired information. NO 1488-S is not personally acquainted with GAUDET. PSI has been known to United Fruit personnel for over 20 years as a reporter in the tropics. (X)(u)

3. The PSI during an interview in December, 1967, confidentially exposed his former association with CIA to the interviewing Agent. (X)(u)

It is evident from contacts with GAUDET that to date he is an outspoken individual who does not hesitate to speak his mind. He has not, however, given any indication that he is unpatriotic and without solicitation he has spoken highly of Bureau operations with which he claims to be familiar as a result of his former association with the U.S. Government. He has also reportedly stated that he would be willing to help the FBI if he can. (X)(u)

2 - Bureau  
2 - New Orleans  
EJC  
(4)  
FEB 15 1968

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

4 FEB 12 1968

LATIN AMERICAN

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Classified by 2542-G/LH/AHC  
Declassify on OADR  
12/14/83  
12/13/84 SP4 BJA/KCL #211326

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8 mac/ks  
ON 9-3-94



5010-108