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JFK Assassination System
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JOSEPH RAYMOND MEROLA
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SECRET

S/9351

21 July, 1959.

⑥
Sir Sydney OAKES

REG-35

VHN

Please refer to your memorandum 12961 dated 11 June 1959 in which you asked for information about OAKES and his activities.

The Bahamas Police have been unable to confirm that Sir Sydney OAKES went to Cuba in April, but according to a reliable source, George LONG, Sir Sydney's business associate, was in Havana during that month. It is CANADA believed that LONG, who is a Canadian subject, went to Havana secretly and was travelling on a Danish passport issued by Sir Sydney, who is Danish Consul in Nassau. It is believed that LONG has been associated with Sir Sydney in arms trafficking for at least eighteen months.

Welland Corporation is presumably Welland Aviation Inc. an aircraft charter firm reportedly owned by Sir Sydney. The firm has one twin-engined 'Piper Apache' aircraft. The firm's Nassau address is P.O.B. 201 - the Box number of 'Sidpitt Agency', Sir Sydney's firm. Welland Aviation Inc. also has an office at 1322 S.E. 11th Street, Pompano Beach, Florida.

The source mentioned in paragraph 1 above recalls meeting a man with a name like YPERIFANOS in Miami in March 1959. Source says that this man is an accredited dealer in agricultural machinery and may be connected with Black Eagle Associates of 1360, Sedgwick Avenue, Bronx 53, New York. Black Eagle deals in arms and ammunition and is apparently interested in supplying arms to the rebels in the Caribbean.

On 16th May 1959 Sir Sydney went to Miami from Nassau. About three days later source produced the attached list of arms and ammunition which had been typed by LONG and allegedly dictated to him by Sir Sydney. Source gave this list to Marvin ODEN, a United States citizen who has been working as a floor covering salesman in Nassau for the past four years. According to source, ODEN is also a member of a gun smuggling and dope running ring in Nassau.

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USA

This list was discussed at a meeting held in the British Colonial Hotel, Nassau on or about 20th May 1959 at which George LONG, Joe MEROLA of 2018 N. Bay Road., Miami Beach and Bill DANNION of Pompano Beach, Florida were present. At this meeting the possibility of buying four 'Vosper' M.T.B.'s and four 'Gay Dragon' M.T.B.'s, all fully equipped and valued at about a quarter of a million dollars each, was discussed. These names are stated to have been given to your office in Miami in early June 1959 as being arms traffickers.

We have asked the authorities in Nassau for the personal particulars of LONG and ODEN. It is believed that MEROLA has recently been arrested in the United States.

let Miami welland.
VHN/lwd
7/31/59

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ENCLOSURE

1/21/96
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FROM STOTT
JUL 22 1959

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