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RECORD SERIES : JFK
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : RUSS HOLMES WORK FILE

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Assassination Records
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Case#:NW 53320 Date:
06-26-2017

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

AGENCY ORIGINATOR : CIA
FROM : JOHN WALLER
TO : MR. BUSH
TITLE : SUGGESTED DRAFT OF LETTER TO MR. DEMOHRENSCHILDT WITH
ATTACHED RELATED DOCUMENTS AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP.
DATE : 09/02/1976
PAGES : 32

SUBJECTS : TRANSMITTAL SLI

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED 104-10414-10378

from IG

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE	2 SEP 1976
TO: Mr. Bush			
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	Executive Registry	
REMARKS:			
<p>The attached suggested draft to Mr. De Mohrenschildt was written without knowledge of the flavor of your personal relationship with him. The tone may not be appropriate, but the message boils down to the fact that neither CIA nor the FBI appear to have been interested in Mr. De Mohrenschildt for a number of years.</p> <p>This draft was coordinated with OGC on 22 Sep.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">John Waller</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>US Citizens - "Dem"</i></p>			
FROM:			
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION	

FORM NO. 241
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

(37)

UNCLASSIFIED INTERNAL ONLY CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Mr. George de Mohrenschildt

INSPECTOR GENERAL
76-3000

FROM: John H. Waller
Inspector General
2 E 24 Hqs. Bldg.

EXTENSION
6565
R-1252

NO.
DATE

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. DCI
ROOM: 7 E 12

This is the response to the letter from de Mohrenschildt that you gave me a few days ago.

John Waller
John Waller

FORM 3-62

610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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Executive Registry
76-5157/1

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22 SEP 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : John H. Waller
Inspector General
SUBJECT : Mr. George de Mohrenschildt
REFERENCE : Mr. de Mohrenschildt's letter to you,
dated 5 September 1976

Action Required:

1. None. This memorandum is for your information. We have also attached at A a suggested draft reply to Mr. de Mohrenschildt's letter.

Action Taken:

2. We have reviewed DDO and IG files on Mr. de Mohrenschildt. In addition, at our request, the CI Staff has run Agency traces on him and has been in touch with the FBI as well.

Findings:

3. There is voluminous material on Mr. de Mohrenschildt in CIA files, most of it dating from the post-Kennedy assassination period when he testified before the Warren Commission on his acquaintance with Mr. and Mrs. Lee Harvey Oswald. (A copy of the de Mohrenschildts' testimony is attached at B.)

4. The bulk of the material in our files consists of FBI reports, the most recent of which is dated 1967. The FBI has informed CIA that it has no traces on Mr. de Mohrenschildt beyond that date; our files contain all of its previous material on him.

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S E C R E T

5. Mr. Helms' 3 June 1964 memorandum for the Warren Commission on the de Mohrenschildts is attached at C. It describes the Agency's interest in obtaining reports from Mr. de Mohrenschildt in 1957 as a result of his sojourn in Yugoslavia that year. Contact Division (now Domestic Collection Division - DCD) had its resident agent in Dallas, Mr. J. Walton Moore, contact Mr. de Mohrenschildt at that time. The history of Mr. Moore's relationship with Mr. de Mohrenschildt from 1957 to 1961 is also attached at C. As a routine matter, Mr. Moore requested traces on Mr. de Mohrenschildt. The trace results (attached at D) contained sufficient derogatory information to preclude further extensive contact with the de Mohrenschildts. (An OS summary on Mr. de Mohrenschildt prepared in response to the current request is also attached at D.)

6. Our files show that a mail cover was placed on letters addressed to Mr. de Mohrenschildt c/o the U.S. Embassy in Haiti from about 1964 to 1966. (This was probably not uncovered at the time of the external investigations.) This included opening and photographing the contents of some letters by the CIA Station there. The results of this operation were shared with the FBI.

7. Mr. de Mohrenschildt came to the attention of this office during the Rockefeller Commission investigations. We were asked to respond to a memorandum submitted to the Commission by Mr. Paul Hoch entitled "CIA Activities and the Warren Commission Investigation." Mr. Hoch called for an identification of Mr. J. Walton Moore's employment affiliation and asked what Mr. Moore knew about Oswald and what he may have told Mr. de Mohrenschildt about him. Our reply to the Rockefeller Commission is attached at E.

8. The most recent information we have on Mr. de Mohrenschildt comes from Mr. J. Walton Moore who was contacted in May and July 1976 by writers connected with the Reader's Digest, and with the Dial Press and the Dell Publishing Company. Both writers questioned Mr. Moore about Oswald and Mr. de Mohrenschildt. Mr. Moore's reports on these contacts are attached at F.

Conclusions:

9. Mr. de Mohrenschildt appears to have lead an adventurous and colorful life as a petroleum engineer and businessman. He is both well

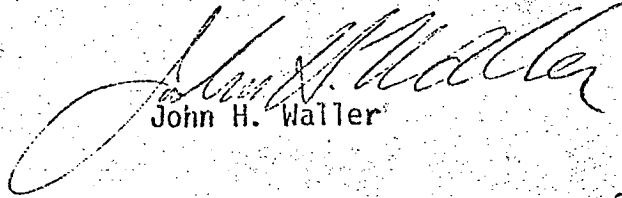
- 2 -

~~S E C R E T~~

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and poorly connected, and some of his associations in the past have raised serious questions. Certainly his relationship with the Oswalds has caused him considerable trouble and may have caused this Agency and the FBI to spend more time and energy on him in the past than was necessary.

10. Both the FBI and this Agency, however, had dropped their interests in Mr. de Mohrenschildt's activities by the mid-to-late 1960's. We speculate that any attention he is now receiving could either be from local authorities in Dallas or from media representatives on the trail of a warmed over story concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. We offer no proof of this conjecture beyond Mr. Moore's reports attached at F. What we can say is that we have found no indication that either CIA or the FBI has taken any active interest in Mr. de Mohrenschildt in recent years.


John H. Waller

Attachments:
A thru F a/s

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry
76-5157/11

28 September 1976

Mr. G. de Mohrenschildt
2737 Kings Road
Apartment 142
Dallas, Texas 75219

Dear George:

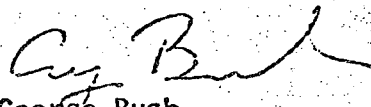
Please forgive the delay in my reply to your September 5th letter. It took time to explore thoroughly the matters you raised.

Let me say first that I know it must have been difficult for you to seek my help in the situation outlined in your letter. I believe I can appreciate your state of mind in view of your daughter's tragic death a few years ago and the current poor state of your wife's health. I was extremely sorry to hear of these circumstances.

In your situation, I can well imagine how the attentions you described in your letter affect both you and your wife. However, my staff has been unable to find any indication of interest in your activities on the part of Federal authorities in recent years. The flurry of interest that attended your testimony before the Warren Commission has long since subsided. I can only speculate that you may have become "newsworthy" again in view of the renewed interest in the Kennedy assassination and, thus, may be attracting the attention of people in the media.

I hope this letter has been of some comfort to you, George, although I realize I am unable to answer your question completely. Thank you for your good wishes on my new job. As you can imagine, I'm finding it interesting and challenging.

Very truly yours,


George Bush
Director

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XAAZ-17370

3 June 1964

CIA info on DeMohrenschildts summarized and sent to Warren Commission

MEMORANDUM FOR : Mr. J Lee Rankin
General Counsel
President's Commission on the
Assassination of President Kennedy

SUBJECT : George and Jeanne De MOHRENSCHILDT

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 31 March 1964 requesting any information on George and Jeanne De MOHRENSCHILDT that is available in CIA files. Our review shows that the files contain reports received from other U.S. Government agencies, primarily the FBI, as well as some information developed by this Agency in 1957 and 1958. The review also produced references to information in the records of the Coordinator of Information and the Office of Strategic Services. According to the records of those agencies, George De MOHRENSCHILDT had been considered for employment in 1942, but was not hired because he was alleged to be a Nazi espionage agent. No information developed by CIA (or its predecessors) before the assassination of President Kennedy had established any link between the De MOHRENSCHILDTs and Lee Harvey OSWALD or his family.

2. CIA's initial interest in George De MOHRENSCHILDT developed as a result of his sojourn in Yugoslavia in 1957 on behalf of the International Cooperation Agency (ICA). In that connection CIA headquarters sent a routine advisory to its Dallas representative who called on the De MOHRENSCHILDTs in the early part of December 1957. In the course of several meetings the CIA representative obtained foreign intelligence which was promptly disseminated to other federal agencies in ten separate reports. The Dallas representative continued

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informal, occasional contact with the De MOHRENSCHILDTs until the autumn of 1961. He has not seen them since that time, although he received a Christmas card from them during the holiday period following the assassination.

3. On the 23rd or 24th of November 1963, after the assassination, our representative in Dallas received a telephone call from one of his contacts who told him that several members of his firm had attended a social or a discussion group in January 1963 and that Lee Harvey OSWALD had also been there. Our representative immediately arranged for the FBI to contact the operative. It was later ascertained from the FBI, and from one of our own sources, that George De MOHRENSCHILDT was present at the meeting and had introduced OSWALD to the group.

4. At CIA headquarters the association between the De MOHRENSCHILDTs and the OSWALDs was noted for the first time in December 1963 when it was reported from Haiti that the De MOHRENSCHILDTs had appeared at the Embassy and volunteered information about their relationship with the OSWALDs. At about the same time the details of their association began to appear in reports made by other U.S. Government agencies engaged in investigating the assassination.

5. During the contact with George De MOHRENSCHILDT late in 1967 and early 1968, his background was investigated. Inquiries produced a considerable amount of information about him and his activities, including allegations that during World War II he had engaged in espionage activities on behalf of the Nazis; that he was a member of the Communist Party; and that after the war he was sympathetic toward Communism and the U.S.S.R. The investigation was extended to Belgium where George De MOHRENSCHILDT claimed to have lived from 1930 until 1936. His educational background and his work as a journalist were confirmed there. One record of arrest came to light: on 4 November 1931 he was sentenced by the Tribunal Correctionnel at Antwerp to eight days in prison on charges of

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resulting a police officer and to eight days imprisonment or a fine of 100 francs on charges of drunkenness and use of a false name. Sentence was suspended pending completion of a three-year probationary period.

6. Throughout his adult life, George De MOHRENSCHILDT has used variations of his basic name, including such variants as Jerry de MOHRENSCHILDT; Jerry van MOHRENSCHILDT; George van MOHRENSCHILD; and George Sergius de MOHRENSCHILD. In like manner he also seems to have varied his former ethnic origin from Russian, to Polish, Swedish, Danish, and German. There appear to be two versions of his mother's maiden name: Alexandra LATOSKEY and Alexandra ZAPOLSKI.

7. FBI Special Agent, James F. MORRISSEY, came to CIA on 19 March 1964 and reviewed this Agency's files on the De MOHRENSCHILDTs.

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8. On 17 March 1964 the FBI furnished to this Agency a report dated 23 February 1964. The report provides details about one Yuri (George) De MOHRENSCHILD's contact with Fedor Aleksandrovich GABANIN, who was a Soviet diplomat in Washington, D. C. in 1946. In that report Yuri (George) De MOHRENSCHILD was described as a petroleum engineer who had worked in the Texas oil fields and in Venezuela. Concerning GABANIN our records show that he has been a member of the Soviet State Security Service probably since the mid-1940's. He served in Cuba in 1943; after World War II he also served in the U.S., Hungary and Finland. According to our records, the information about GABANIN and his association with the Soviet State Security Service has also been known to the FBI.

(201-340678)

9. You may also wish to make inquiries at the Office of Naval Intelligence; the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army; the Department of State; and the Civil Service Commission because these departments also have information about George De MOHRENSCHILDT.

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Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

DDP/CI/R&A/Hartman

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3 Jun 64
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