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SECRET

F12-79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS

16 March 1971

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

HERBELL, Mitchell Livingston, III -- Revocation of DOD Security
#27636 Clearance/Recent Contact --
MMH-056-71

1. The information reported in the enclosed self-explanatory memorandum, regarding Subject's self-initiated contact with our Miami Field Office, may be of interest.
2. The Office of the General Counsel and VII Division have been apprised of Subject's recent activities.
3. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to [redacted] Ext. 2733.

SECURITY

Enclosure: As stated above

[redacted] grv

4. 78

GROUP 1
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC
DOWNGRADING AND
DECLASSIFICATION

SECRET

V. Thoma
MIN-056-71

ATTN : Director, Domestic Contact Service
John McConnell
John Creany (OCC)
Chief, Miami Field Office

10 March 1971

Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III

1. On 9 Mar 71 we received a long distance call, presumably from Powder Springs, Georgia, from subject, who is an old and unavory contact of this office dating from 1959. Werbell has been involved in a variety of scrapes, the latest of which concerned an abortive invasion of Haiti which John Creany was very much concerned about a year or so ago.

2. Werbell stated that the Department of Defense had just revoked his security clearance on grounds of Werbell's "frivolous behavior" in the Haitian caper. Werbell stated that he intended to "fight it to the Supreme Court", as he had always kept us and other elements of the US Government informed concerning developments in the Haitian matter.

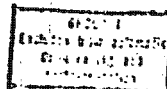
3. Werbell asked if there was anything that we could do for him in the way of interceding for him with the DOD, and we informed him bluntly and in no uncertain terms that he was strictly on his own, and we could do nothing for him. He then asked if it would be worthwhile to subpoena Earl Conzelmann. We informed him that it was up to his attorney to make such recommendations.

4. Werbell seemed to get the message, and then offered to keep us advised regarding an alleged forthcoming attempt on Haiti which is being sponsored by Rolando Masferrer, even though Masferrer is currently incarcerated in a federal prison. We told Werbell that if he wished to pass any information along we would accept it but under no circumstances should he attempt to elicit any information on our behalf. He agreed that he would operate on this basis and said he might be in touch with us again.

5. In view of Werbell's record we felt that this latest contact should be a matter of record and that OCC should be informed of developments.

JFC/csb

SECRET



4.45

SECRET

F12-79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS

22 May 1969

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WHEWELL, Mitchell L. -- Local OSI Inquiry to DCS Miami Office for
#27686 Information Concerning

mim-084-69

1. The enclosed copy of memorandum from our Miami Office, regarding the OSI representative's inquiry for information concerning Subject, is forwarded for your records and possible future reference.

2. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to [redacted] Ext. 2730.

SECURITY [redacted]

Enclosure: As stated above

[redacted]:grw

4.47

SECRET

GROUP 1
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downgrading and
declassification

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SECRET

Memorandum

TO : Director, Domestic Contact Service

DATE: 15 May 1969

~~ATTN: [redacted]~~

MM-084-69

FROM : Chief, Miami Field Office

SUBJECT: Local OSI Inquiry Regarding Information on Mitchell L. Werbell

1. On 15 May 1969, Special Agent Dave Ploumen, local OSI representative, USAF, visited the Miami Field Office to solicit any information we might have regarding Mitchell L. Werbell who apparently is undergoing a security clearance check as the result of presently being employed by a company with a government contract.
2. Werbell was an unsolicited contact of this office beginning in 1959 and he reached peak notoriety in November 1967 as a result of his involvement in the Rolando Masferrer trial in connection with the abortive Haitian invasion. John Greaney, OSO was in Miami at the time to oversee Agency interests.
3. Ploumen in contacting other US Government agencies locally including the US Attorney's Office somehow received an indication that CIA had information on Werbell; thus Ploumen's visit to the Miami Field Office.
4. It was indicated to Ploumen, who is known personally by several members of this staff, that we knew of Werbell and that on occasion he had reported unsolicited information. It was suggested, however, that Ploumen direct his request officially through channels via OSI's agency liaison officer in Washington.
5. This is for background and is being forwarded at the suggestion of local CIA Security.

SECRET

[redacted]
[redacted] : paw

[redacted]
[redacted]

447

SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

SECRET

Chief, Miami Field Office

22 May 1969

ATTN :

Director, Domestic Contact Service (Services Division)

VERBELL, Mitchell L.

REF :

MM-084-69

Thank you for the information reported in the referent. The suggestion made by your office that OSI direct its request through official security channels is entirely correct. In the future, however, it will be helpful and appreciated if you will forward correspondence pertaining to security matters directly to the Security Liaison Officer, rather than to Support Staff. This saves time in getting the information to the appropriate channel for any action that may be indicated.

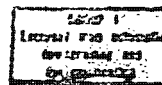
SECURITY

JAMES R. MURPHY

127

446

SECRET



CONFIDENTIAL
(When Filled In)

12-7900

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE : 5 July 1967

TO : Director, Domestic Contact Service

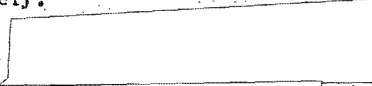
SUBJECT: WERBELL, Mitchell Livingston III

FILE NO: #27686

A107900

1. Reference is made to your request for security checks on the subject person as a source of intelligence information.
2. This is to inform you that the necessary checks have been completed with the following results:
 - a. No additional information has been obtained, except for such biographic information as indicated below or in the attachment.
 - b. Information has been received that Subject was investigated with favorable results in
 - c. Certain information has been received and appears in the attachment which your Division will wish to consider in determining the extent and level of your use of Subject.

3. It is to be noted that our checks were made on the basis of the identifying information you furnished or in an attachment to this memorandum. Should it be disclosed that this information is erroneous or that Subject is known by a different name, this Division should be notified immediately.


Chief, Personnel Security Division

Attachment:
State Passport Report
Summary

RESTRICTED

EYES ONLY
#4227

4.45

CONFIDENTIAL

WERBELL, Mitchell L.
#27 086

26 April 1967

On 19 April 1967, the current passport file of Mitchell L. WERBELL was reviewed at the Passport Office, Department of State. The following is a summary of the information contained therein:

Birth: 8 March 1918 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
(Verified by birth certificate)

PASSPORT ISSUED: At Miami, Florida, on 29 May 1962, Passport Number C-301493, for a two week trip to England and Germany for the purpose of business.

Residence: RD #1, Powder Springs, Georgia
Occupation: Public Relations and Advertising Executive.

SUBJECT's file also reveals that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has information pertaining to SUBJECT concerning his involvement in Haitian Revolutionary activities.

HEB/mg

CONFIDENTIAL

4.45

DATE 31 July 1967

MEMORANDUM TO : Chief, MIAMI FIELD OFFICE

FROM : Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Services Division)

SUBJECT : Security Check Completion -- US Citizen

REFERENCE : (a) DCS R 10-30, dated 1 July 1965
(b) Operations Memo 88-64

1. Attached is a notice of security check completion on the individual listed below. The CS approved Subject's exploitation as a source of intelligence information, but the level of classified information which may be divulged is left to your discretion.

2. As indicated in the attachment, the CS provided a Summary of derogatory information for you to consider in determining the level of classified disclosure. It will be forwarded by Services Division by an "Eyes Only" memorandum which will bear a number identical to the one marked on the lower left corner of the completion. Please use this number to identify a Summary with an individual.

3. The CS directs that the field chief, after reading the information, will use it to establish the level of classified disclosure, if any, and to provide guidance to the Contact Specialist in his relations with the source. He may, at his discretion, disclose the nature of the derogatory information to the Contact Specialist. The field chief, after making an appropriate notation in the open files of the office with respect to the security status of the individual, will then either destroy the information or place in a sealed envelope which will carry the caveat: "To be opened by the Chief or Acting Chief, Miami Field Office."

[Redacted Signature Box]

JAMES R. BARNETT

Attachment:
WEBBELL, MITCHELL *Laurington, III*

CLASSIFICATION: "Restricted" - No Classified Info to be revealed. Check with Mr. Gleichauf before contacting.

31 July # 4227

[Redacted Box] :pat

[Redacted Box]

GROUP I
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

4.45

SECRET

F 12-79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS

21 February 1967

ATT :

[redacted]
Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WERBLL, Mitchell L. -- Recent Telephone Call from Chet GRAY
of Los Angeles re Possible Assassination
in US of Close Relative of Middle East
Ruler

A-127900

1. The enclosed copy of teletype from our Miami Field Office is forwarded for your information and immediate transmittal to the FBI.
2. [redacted] of this Office, has discussed this matter with Mr. Sam Papich, FBI, who said the FBI will contact Subject and GRAY, and will subsequently advise us of any action they might want us to take.
3. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to [redacted] Ext. 2738.

SECRET

[redacted]

Enclosure: Teletype Contacts/Miami-1710
dated 20 February 1967

[redacted] pat

44

SECRET

6857

CC - FBI Via OS

SECRET

FEB 20 11 58 AM '67

S E C R E T 201530Z CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1710

CONTACTS/WASHINGTON

ATTN:

FROM:

file

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED A MOST UNUSUAL PHONE CALL FROM MITCHELL WERBELL, POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, DETAILS OF WHICH FOLLOW:
2. WERBELL IS A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WHO HAS BEEN IN OCCASIONAL CONTACT WITH THIS OFFICE, OF HIS OWN VOLITION, SINCE 1959. WHILE AN UNSAVORY CHARACTER, MUCH OF THE INFORMATION HE HAS FURNISHED HAS PROVED TRUE. HE FURNISHED COMPLETE DETAILS ON THE RECENT HAITIAN INVASION PLAN. THE PHONE CALL WAS RECEIVED BY BART GONZALES FROM HIM AT 1100 HOURS ON 18 FEBRUARY. HE STATED THAT HE HAD JUST HAD A TELEPHONE CALL FROM CHET GRAY OF LOS ANGELES, NO ADDRESS (PHONE 274-4922).
3. GRAY STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED REGARDING THE POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION IN THE U.S. OF A CLOSE RELATIVE, POSSIBLY A BROTHER OR SON, OF A MIDDLE-EAST RULER, WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS. HE DID NOT FURNISH THE NAME OF THE ALLEGED VICTIM, NOR BY WHOM HE WAS APPROACHED. GRAY TOLD WERBELL THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN AN INCIDENT THAT MIGHT CAUSE INTERNATIONAL

4.44

①

SECURITY

PAGE 2 CONTACTS/MIAMI 1710 S E C R E T

REPERCUSSIONS AND ASKED WERBELL FOR ADVICE. WER

BELL ADVISED GRAY

TO INFORM THE FBI IN LOS ANGELES, BUT GRAY WAS RELUCTANT TO DO SO.

WERBELL THEN ASKED GRAY IF HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK WITH A

MEMBER OF CIA AND GRAY AGREED. WERBELL TOLD GRAY THAT IF A

REPRESENTATIVE OF CIA CONTACTED HIM, WERBELL'S NAME WOULD BE USED AS ENTREE.

4. THE ABOVE SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF THE "ARABIAN NIGHTS," BUT I DID MEET A CHET GRAY FROM LOS ANGELES AT A LOCAL CONTACT'S HOUSE IN 1962, SOME DETAILS OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN OOA(S)5621 AND OOA(S) 5598 DATED 18 DEC 62. GRAY IS A NOTORIOUS HOODLUM AND MIGHT EASILY HAVE BEEN APPROACHED FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

54. PLEASE HANDLE THE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT.

SECRET

BT

Sam Papich says
FBI will talk to Werbell
and Gray - Will advise of any
action they want us to take

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

12-79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS

24 February 1967

ATT

[Redacted]

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WEHRELL, Mitchell L. -- Communication from Chet GRAY
re Alleged Assassination Attempt
Against Foreign Diplomat -- FBI
Interest

A127700

REF : DCB memorandum dated 21 February 1967, same subject

1. Please forward a copy of the enclosed self-explanatory Diary Item to Mr. Sam Papich. Mr. Papich was informed of this matter by phone on 23 February 1967.
2. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to [Redacted] Ext. 2733.

SECRET

[Redacted]

Enclosure: As stated above

CC: Mr. Sam Papich

VThorne:pat

443

DEARY, 23 February 1967

SUBJECT: Mitchell Werbell/Chat Gray

[redacted] called to say that Werbell had heard from Gray both yesterday and the day before expressing concern over the fact that no one had contacted him concerning the alleged assassination attempt against a foreign diplomat. Gray stated that unless he heard from someone immediately he would go to the Governor of California, 23 February. This information was passed to Sam Poyich by phone.

cc: Chief, Miami Office

[redacted] mg

SECURITY

H. 43

Miami ()

24 FEB 1967

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

(Cohort)

BIOGRAPHIC DATA

NO. 48267

1. SUBJECT'S LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME WERBELL, Mitchell L.		2. DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH 8 March 1918-Philadelphia, Pa.	
3. ALIASES A-127900		4. SEX 5. CITIZENSHIP Male US	
6. FULL NAME OF SPOUSE, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, CITIZENSHIP			

7. RESIDENCES (Including No., and Street, Zone, R.F.D., etc.)		
FROM	TO	COMPLETE ADDRESS
	Present	Powder Springs, Georgia

CONTINUED

8. EMPLOYMENT			
FROM	TO	NAME OF EMPLOYER	COMPLETE ADDRESS
	Present	Leader of Organization to Combat Communism	Powder Springs, Georgia
?	?	Alexis, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia
?	?	Cool Roof of Georgia, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia
?	?	Werbell-South, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia

CONTINUED

9. EDUCATION (High school, college, graduate work, etc.)			
FROM	TO	NAME OF SCHOOL	DEGREE OR MAJOR

CONTINUED

10. ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFORMATION, INCLUDING FULL NAME, CITIZENSHIP DATA ON PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

1381

27 FEB 1967

4.42

CONTINUED

SECRET

A-12-79-00

MITCHEL L. WERRELL

Powder Springs, Georgia

BUSINESS:

4.41

HRG-0422/79

10 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]
Chief, PPL Group

ATTENTION: [redacted]

FROM: [redacted]
Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Request for Records Search --
[redacted], et al. (U)

REFERENCE: OGC 79-02601 dated 20 September 1979

1. [redacted]

2. However, this search has revealed the following information concerning [redacted] and Mitchell Livingston WEBBELL III (AKA: Mitch THREE). (U)

A. [redacted]

1) [redacted]

2) [redacted]

B. Mitchell Livingston WEBBELL III

1) WEBBELL has never been employed by this Agency nor does this Agency have any operational interest in him. WEBBELL was a commissioned officer with the OSS during World War II and served in the China-Burma-India

theater. In August of 1959, this Agency considered using WERBELL as a source of information on revolutionary activities in the Caribbean area, particularly Cuba, but terminated its consideration of his possible use in October 1959 when it was determined that his information was of little value and it was suspected that he would use the proposed connection with this Agency to promote his personal interests. (S)

2) In 1973 WERBELL was under investigation by the United States Treasury Department Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and by the United States Customs Service for activities relating to possible mercenary activities on Abaco Island in the Bahamas. In this connection, WERBELL contacted three retired CIA employees during 1974 in an attempt to involve them in a scheme concerning the activities of an organization called the Friends of Abaco (FOA) which advocated the secession of the island from the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. All three individuals reported their contact with WERBELL and sought guidance from this Agency. In May and June of 1974 they were advised to break all ties with WERBELL. On 27 June 1974 the Federal Bureau of Investigation was formally apprized of WERBELL'S overtures to the three retired CIA employees. (S)

3. It has been determined that Mitchell Livingston WERBELL III is the subject of PA request number P76-0028. There is no indication that Mitchell Livingston WERBELL III has ever been the subject of an FOIA request or that the remaining individuals listed in reference have ever been the subject of an FOIA or PA request. (U)

OG/EIR:hlless/[redacted]/ran:6347 (14Nov79)
BASED ON: 201-259910
FILE IN: 201-259910 Mitchell Livingston WERBELL III

Distribution:

- Orig - Addressee w/ref.
- 1 - OG/EIR w/ref.
- 1 - OG/EIR Chrono

OGC 79-08601

20 September 1979

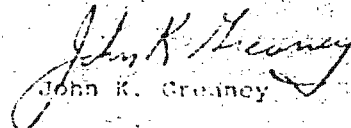
MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for Administration
Attn: Chief, Security Analysis Group, OS
Associate Deputy Director for Science &
Technology
Associate Deputy Director for Operations
Attn: ISA/DIP/IP/EIS
Thru: C/Reference Branch/ISS/IPG

FROM: John K. Greaney
General Counsel

SUBJECT: Request for Records Search --
Robert John Morgan, et al.

1. The Department of Justice is currently engaged in an investigation with state and federal law enforcement agencies concerning importation and distribution of marijuana and cocaine. Attached is a copy of the Department's letter to me requesting verification by CIA of any employment or other involvement with certain of the subjects of this investigation.

2. In order to respond to the Department's request, it would be appreciated if your offices could determine if there are any records on the subjects listed in the attached letter from the Justice Department.


John K. Greaney

Attachment



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

Admission Report to the
Division Indicated WLN:mas
and Refer to Inmate's Number

Organized Crime Strike Force
Richard B. Russell Federal Bldg.
Post Office Box 543
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
September 17, 1979

Mr. John K. Greaney
Associate General Counsel
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Greaney:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and Clyde Carter last Monday.

As I explained to you at that time, we are engaged in an investigation with state and federal law enforcement agencies concerning importation and distribution of marijuana and cocaine. During the course of this investigation, allegations (unfounded, I am sure) have been made that certain of the subjects of this investigation are employees of the Central Intelligence Agency.

I believe it is necessary to resolve as much in advance of an indictment any problems which may arise should any of the subjects of the investigation be involved with the Central Intelligence Agency.

The following individuals are among the subjects of this investigation:

- Robert John Morgan - DOB: 3/6/36
- John Duncan Lilloitt - DOB: 1/25/24
- Robert Stewart Cotton - DOB: 11/19/23
- John Sylvester Carpenter - DOB: 1/27/35
- Niley Gilmore Sims - DOB: 11/5/18
- Mitchell Livingston Bartlett - DOB: 3/8/18
- Wayne Ernest Daniel - DOB: 2/13/40
- Gay Corlison Owen - DOB: 11/1/45



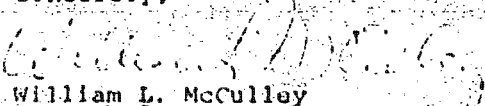
Mr. Greaney

-2-

September 17, 1979

Please advise as soon as possible if indictment or continued investigation of these individuals will create problems for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Sincerely,



William L. McCulley
Special Attorney
U. S. Dept. of Justice

cc: Robert L. Keuche
Deputy Asst. Attorney General
Criminal Division

Gerard T. McGuire
Deputy Chief
Organized Crime & Racketeering Section
Criminal Division

"CONFIDENTIAL"

FBI reports extracted from Werbell file (DCD) :

- ① FBI report dated 6 August 1974 from Washington, FBI file (CI-3) 62-108665, SUBJECT: MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III, INTERNAL SECURITY - ABACO, NEUTRALITY MATTERS - ABACO.
- ② FBI report dated 22 July 1974 from Atlanta, Georgia, no Bureau file, Subject: MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III.

"CONFIDENTIAL"

DCD-11-2/78
31 January 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDO/ISS/IP/EIS

FROM : Ruth Elliff
DCD/FIO/PAO

SUBJECT : House Select Committee on Assassinations
(HSCA) Request (OLC 77-5685/4)

REFERENCE : Your Memorandum, Same Subject, 28 December 1977

I. In response to referenced request, I am forwarding the following material from DCD files:

- a. Dan Carswell -- one memorandum which may relate to the individual you requested.
- b. Louis Posada -- negative.
- c. Cesario Diosada -- copies of all material in DCD files.
- d. Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III -- file A-12-79-09, containing all DCD material. This file is on loan and should be returned to DCD as soon as possible. PLEASE HAND CARRY.
- e. David Atlee Phillips -- negative.
- f. Lucien Conein -- one document. (This document was also furnished in response to Conein's request [P 77-0305] under the Privacy Act.)
- g. William Stuckey -- negative.
- h. Ed Butler -- copies of all material in DCD files.

E2 IMPDET CL BY 386090

DCD-112/78
31 January 1978

SUBJECT: House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA)
Request (OLC 77-5685/4)

- f. Priscilla Johnson McMillan -- DCD response to her request [P. 76-1861] under the Privacy Act. Full text and sanitized copies of all this material should be available from IPS. Also attached are four intelligence information reports which were not furnished in response to the PA request.
- j. Richard Snyder -- one memorandum which may relate to the individual in whom you are interested.
- k. Alexis Davison -- negative.

2. I have made no attempt to sanitize this material. I understand that HSCA staff members who will be examining these documents are fully cleared, and will not be allowed to remove any of this material from our Headquarters, make any copies of this material, or make any notes therefrom that would reveal any material that is properly classified and deals with intelligence sources and methods. All of the attached material is for your retention except file A-12-79-00.

3. Please direct further inquiries about this matter to the undersigned on extension 3767.

Ruth Eliff
Ruth Eliff

Attachments a/s

RELLIFF:wfc

Distribution

- Orig & 1 - Addressee, w/atts
- 1 - C/DCD, wo/atts
- 1 - C/Staff A, wo/atts
- 3 - RELLIFF
- 11 - Control

*From [unclear] - [unclear] from
[unclear] from [unclear] - [unclear]
[unclear] dismantled and [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] for review - [unclear] (July)*

also stored in Miami -

*Best is using us - It could be
dragged into lawsuit - Works for
Anderson*

WPRC
3136292

27 July

A 8161

*Letter to
[unclear]
on 27 Aug*

*Chipp
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]*

CONFIDENTIAL 092000Z SEP 76 STAFF

CITE DCD/MIAMI 13596

TO: PRIORITY DCD/HEADQUARTERS.

TO: OFFICE OF THE CHIEF (SPILMAN) FROM HENNESSEY

WNINTEL

SUBJ: FIELD OFFICE ASSISTANCE TO OGC

REF: SPILMAN/MAINWARING TELECON, 9 SEPTEMBER 1976, SAME SUBJECT

1551

1. IN RESPONSE TO A TELEPHONE CALL FROM DEPUTY CHIEF, DCD, ON 23 AUGUST 1976, WE MADE HOTEL RESERVATIONS IN CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, FOR WALTER LLOYD, OGC, FOR THE NIGHT OF 23 AUGUST. THE MIAMI FIELD OFFICE WAS HELD OPEN THAT EVENING FOR A MEETING ATTENDED BY MR. LLOYD, SAMUEL SHERES, US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND WILLIAM WARNER, US DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION. JACK HENNESSEY, DCD/MIAMI, ALSO ATTENDED AND PROVIDED A SHORT GENERAL BRIEFING ON DCD OPERATIONS. FOR THE MOST PART, THE MEETING CONSISTED OF A DISCUSSION OF THE PAST RELATIONSHIP OF MITCHELL L. WERSELL III WITH BERNERD, ESPECIALLY WITH DCD AS REVEALED IN THE DCD MEMORANDUM TO OGC DATED 2 MARCH 1976.

2. WE WERE ADVISED BY TELEPHONE DURING THE EVENING OF 27 AUGUST BY [REDACTED] DCD DUTY OFFICER, AND SUBSEQUENTLY BY WALTER LLOYD, THAT LLOYD WOULD VISIT MIAMI AGAIN ON 30 AUGUST IN CONNECTION WITH THE WERSELL CASE. LLOYD DID NOT TASK DCD/MIAMI IN ANY WAY DURING THIS VISIT. HOWEVER, HE DID CHECK IN WITH US LOCALLY BY TELEPHONE UPON ARRIVAL IN THE MIAMI AREA. HE CALLED US AGAIN DURING THE EVENING OF 31 AUGUST AFTER HIS RETURN FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON, D.C., AS A COURTESY SINCE HE DID NOT HAVE THE TIME TO CONTACT US PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM MIAMI.

3. MR. LLOYD AGAIN RETURNED TO MIAMI, THIS TIME ONBOARD A USAF JET STAR AIRCRAFT, EARLY ON THE MORNING OF 2 SEPTEMBER. HE CONTACTED US THAT AFTERNOON BY TELEPHONE TO REQUEST THAT WE KEEP OPEN THE FIELD OFFICE SO THAT HE COULD DEPOSIT CLASSIFIED FILES IN OUR VAULT OVERNIGHT. HE APPEARED AT THE FIELD OFFICE AT 1730 HOURS AND BRIEFED

PAGE 2 DCD/MIAMI 13506 C O N F I D E N T I A L
US ON HIS TRAVEL OF THE DAY. HE PLACED TWO FOLDERS OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IN OUR VAULT FOR THE NIGHT, AND RECLAIMED THEM ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING, 3 SEPTEMBER. IN ADDITION TO MAKING WORKING SPACE AVAILABLE TO LLOYD FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS DURING THE MORNING OF 3 SEPTEMBER, WE MADE OURSELVES AVAILABLE FOR ANY FURTHER ASSISTANCE THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN REQUIRED THAT DAY. HOWEVER, NOTHING FURTHER WAS REQUESTED OF US. THE LOCAL DS OFFICE PROVIDED AN ESCORT FOR LLOYD'S RETURN COMMERCIAL FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON LATER THAT AFTERNOON. LLOYD ADVISED US IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, THAT THE LOCAL JUDGE HANDLING THE WERSELL CASE ASKED FOR LLOYD TO APPEAR IN MIAMI AGAIN DURING THE FOLLOWING WEEK, WHICH APPARENTLY BECAME UNNECESSARY SINCE WERSELL AND HIS CO-DEFENDANTS WERE ACQUITTED OF ALL CHARGES BY THE JURY ON 3 SEPTEMBER.

4. AFTER RECEIVING TWO OR THREE TELEPHONE CALLS FROM MR. SHERES, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, MIAMI, ON 25 AUGUST, DURING WHICH HE ASKED FOR BKHERALD INFORMATION HELD IN BKHERALD HEADQUARTERS FILES, WE SUGGESTED THAT HE CALL LLOYD DIRECTLY AT HIS OGC OFFICE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE ATTEMPTED USE OF DCD/MIAMI AS A CHANNEL BY SHERES STEMMED FROM THE SEEMING (TO HIM) EXPEDIENT NATURE OF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT AS MUCH AS FROM A BASIC MISUNDERSTANDING OF BKHERALD'S CHAIN OF COMMAND AND INFORMATION FLOW STRUCTURE. NEVERTHELESS, NO SUBSTANTIAL DIFFICULTIES DEVELOPED DURING THE VISITS TO DCD/MIAMI BY LLOYD.
E2 IMPDET CL BY 011668
C O N F I D E N T I A L

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Watts

Attached is all the material DCD has on Werbel. He has been the subject of several communications between DCD's FIO/PIC staff and OGC and the FIO staff in the DDO.

Also attached is the microfilm records on an Arnold A. Bayard. I don't think he is the Colonel Bayard referred to in the memo, but it is hard to tell since we don't have any bio data on him.

4.54

(DATE)

OGC 76-0844

24 February 1976

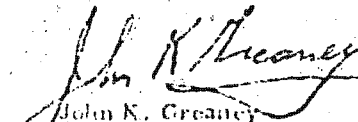
MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SOG
Chief, DCD
Chief, LA Division

SUBJECT : Mitchell Livingston Werbel III

1. I was advised by the Justice Department on 23 February that Werbel has been indicted and the trial is scheduled to begin on 29 March in Miami, Florida. The charges relate to importing and distributing quantities of marijuana. With Werbel's propensity to raise his past affiliations with the Agency, we can anticipate problems during this trial. An additional problem is presented because Werbel is defended by Edwin Marger who was the defense attorney for John Hawk in the B-76 case in Buffalo, New York in 1966. It was Edwin Marger who subpoenaed the CIA General Counsel as a defense witness.

2. The Justice Department has received information that a person either currently or formerly affiliated with the CIA has been participating in Werbel's meetings with his attorney. It would be appreciated if all addressees could review their holdings on Werbel and determine if there is any validity to any recent contacts with him. I would urge that instructions be sent to Miami that no, repeat no, contact with Werbel take place between now and the beginning of the trial.

3. It would be helpful if each addressee could prepare a summary of the various contacts Werbel has had with CIA in the past. Please check to see if you have any information on a Colonel Bayard who was killed in Atlanta, Georgia during the summer of 1975. Bayard, reportedly an associate of Werbel's, had previous contacts with the Agency. It would be appreciated if your responses could be received by close of business 2 March.


John K. Greaney
Associate General Counsel

4.54

AD52714

ARFIELD A. BAYARD

1175 York Avenue
New York City, New York.

BUSINESS

Subject is President of:

407765 - H. L. Bayard Company, Inc., Philadelphia, Texas.

1957 FEB 18

1957

1957

4.54

CONFIDENTIAL
(When Filled In)

F 92744

31 OCT 1961		INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM	DATE 16 October 1961
TO: Chief, Contact Division, DC	FROM: Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS		
SUBJECT: BAYLOR, Arnold A. - 92744			
<p>1. Reference is made to your request for a security clearance on the subject person as a potential source of intelligence information. The necessary checks have been completed with the following results:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> No additional information has been obtained, except for such biographic information as indicated below or in the attachment.</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information has been received that subject was investigated with favorable results in 1959.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Certain information has been received and appears in the attachment which your Division will wish to consider in determining the extent and level of your use of Subject.</p> <p>2. It is to be noted that all checks were made on the basis of the identifying information you furnished or as an attachment to this memorandum. Should it be disclosed that this information is erroneous or that Subject is known by a different name, this Division should be notified immediately.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>[Signature]</i> Chief, Personnel Security Division</p>			
9 274 021			

FORM 64
1 OCT 61

CONFIDENTIAL

4.54

John (Gordon)

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

BIOGRAPHIC DATA

1. SUBJECT'S LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME BAWNS ✓ Arnold A 92744		2. DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH 27 Nov 1924 - Medford, N. J.	
3. ALIAS		4. SEX & CITIZENSHIP M U	
5. FULL NAME OF EMPLOYER, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, CITIZENSHIP			
6. RESIDENCES (Including No. and Street, Apt. # P.O. Box)			
FROM	TO	COMPLETE ADDRESS	
	02/50	3175 East Avenue, New York City, N. Y.	
CONTINUED			
7. EMPLOYMENT			
FROM	TO	NAME OF EMPLOYER	POSITION HELD
	02/50	H. E. Gurnea Company, Inc. (Production Store 1945)	Philadelphia, Pa.
		3122 94 St	02745
CONTINUED			
8. EDUCATION (Including School, College, University, etc.)			
FROM	TO	NAME OF SCHOOL	DEGREE OR COURSE
	1940	Seton University	B.S. in Mechanical Engineering
CONTINUED			
9. OCCASIONAL EMPLOYERS (Including Name, Address, Date, Position, etc.)			

Control

CONFIDENTIAL

3 March 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Washington
Chief, Miami

SUBJECT: Mitchell Livingston Werbell III

1. The attached memorandum was prepared for John Greaney, OGC, who requested a summary of our records on Mitchell L. Werbell III. Werbell is to be tried in March 1976 in Florida on a charge of importing narcotics. OGC anticipates that Werbell may claim some Agency connection because he has done so in the past. Greaney also asked about OGC connections with Colonel Boyard who is mentioned in paragraph 2 of the attached memorandum.

2. OGC has asked that there be no contact with Werbell at least until the trial is over. In view of Werbell's tendency to become involved in schemes with which the Agency cannot afford to be identified, I wish to extend indefinitely the OGC's injunction against contact with him.

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
Chief, Domestic Collection Division

Attachment: 3/5

Distribution:
2 - Washington
2 - Miami
2 - OGC
1 - C/P&Z

[Redacted] /Ab

FD REPORT CL BY 034151

453

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

2 March 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of General Counsel
ATTENTION : John K. Creaney
VIA : Deputy Director for Operations
SUBJECT : Mitchell Livingston Werbell III
REFERENCE : OCC 76-0344 dated 24 February 1976

1. A review of DCD records indicates that Mitchell L. Werbell III was an occasional contact and source of this Division from 24 July 1959, when he first initiated the contact, until March 1971. It appears from our records that all of the contacts were at Werbell's volition and that at no time was he viewed as a particularly useful or reliable source. Werbell did provide unsolicited information which was reported by DCD in seven foreign intelligence information reports. In January 1976 DCD responded to a Freedom of Information inquiry from Werbell. Copies of the documents released to him are available from the DDO/PIC.

2. After meeting with Werbell at his own request in July 1959 the Chief of the Miami Field Office noted in a Memorandum for the Record that little credence could be placed in anything Werbell said. During succeeding contacts Werbell provided information which resulted in the following reports:

- a. Photographs of Camarioca Harbor, Cuba (1965)
- b. Dope and arms running, Dominican Republic (1965)
- c. Planned coup in Guatemala (1966)
- d. Political, economic, military situation in Dominican Republic (1966)
- e. Planned invasion of Haiti (1966)
- f. Planned invasion of Haiti (1966)
- g. Venezuelan request for arms (1967)

E2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

CONFIDENTIAL

4-53

12-79-00

FEB 27 10 47 AM '76

C O N F I D E N T I A L 271454Z FEB 76 STAFF

CITE DCD/ [] 13834

TO: PRIORITY DCD/ []

MAINWARING FROM ZEIMER

12-79-00

SUBJECT: MITCHELL L. WERBELL, III

HAS MIAMI FIELD OFFICE HAD ANY CONTACT WITH WERBELL DURING PAST YEAR? WHEN WAS LAST CONTACT? EC IMPDET CL BY 238552

C O N F I D E N T I A L

CONFIDENTIAL 271600Z FEB 76 STAFF

CIIE DCD/[] 13136

TO: PRIORITY DCD/[]

ATTN: OFFICE OF THE CHIEF (ZEIMER)

SUBJ: MITCHELL L. WERBELL, III

REF : DCD/[] 13834

WE HAVE HAD NO RECENT CONTACT WHATSOEVER WITH MITCHELL WERBELL, III.
THE LAST CONTACT BY THIS OFFICE WAS A TELEPHONE CALL RECEIVED BY
[] ON 9 MARCH 1971 AND DISCUSSED IN MIM-856-71.

E2 IMPDET-CL BY 011663
CONFIDENTIAL

FEB 27 11 54 AM '76

4.52

12-79-00

FEB 25 3 34 PM '75

C O N F I D E N T I A L 060006Z FEB 76 STAFF

CITE DOD [REDACTED] 13825

TO: PRIORITY OGD [REDACTED]

FROM ZEMER

12 79 00

SUBJECT: MITCHELL L. VERDELL III

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HAS ADVISED OGC THAT SUBJECT HAS BEEN
INDICTED AND TRIAL WILL BEGIN ON 29 MARCH 1976. THERE MUST BE
NO REPEAT NO DOD CONTACT WITH VERDELL EVEN IF HE SHOULD ATTEMPT
TO INITIATE THE CONTACT. E2 IMPDET CL BY 838592
C O N F I D E N T I A L

CONFIDENTIAL

22 January 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDO/PIC

ATTENTION : Hal Matter

SUBJECT : P 76-023 - Mitchell Livingston WerBell, III

1. DCD records reflect that Subject has been in contact with the Agency since 1959. The last record of contact with Subject was in March 1971.

2. The documents in DCD's file which pertain to Subject fit into the following categories:

- a. CIA Office of Security namecheck data.
(OS File Number 27686)

One biographic data sheet is attached for release to Subject provided those portions marked with brackets are deleted from the released version.

- b. Eighteen internal documents are attached and may be released to Subject provided those portions marked with brackets are deleted from the released versions. Deletions are based on exemptions (j) (1) (b), (j) (1) (d), (j) (1) (e), (j) (1) (f) and (k) (1).

- c. Attached are two newspaper articles which pertain to Subject and which may be released to him.

- d. DCD also has a document which reflects that Subject provided DCD with 36 black and white photographs taken of the Camarioca Harbor area of Cuba. DCD has neither the originals nor copies of these photographs although they may be retrievable from NPIC. Should Subject request that these photographs be returned to him, we would make every effort to surface them.

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

4.51

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: P 76-023 - Mitchell Livingston WerBell, III

A copy of this document is attached and may be released to Subject provided those portions marked with brackets are deleted from the released version.

- e. DCD also has two FR Division cables which pertain to Subject. One is from FR/Atlanta (00349) to Director, dated 11 July 1974. The other is to FR/New York (670514) from NE/ARI/I, dated 17 March 1975.
- f. One FBI report (CI-3) 62-108665
DATE: 6 August 1974
TO: Director, CIA
FROM: Director, FBI
Washington, D.C.
SUBJECT: Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III
- g. DCD has reference to a report on the Dominican Republic which Subject provided DCD in September 1966. DCD, however, does not have a copy of this document. A notation in our file indicates that the document was sent to OCI/WH/Dominican Desk. DCD records do not reflect the exact title, only that it is a report on the Dominican Republic.
- h. Six internal DCD documents which may not be released to Subject. Copies are attached for your information. Denial is based on exemptions (j) (1) (b), (j) (1) (d) and (k) (1).
- i. DCD suggests that in answering Subject's request he be informed that Agency records indicate that he willingly provided information that resulted in seven foreign intelligence information reports. Four of these reports received advance teletype dissemination. We suggest that Subject be informed that the Agency is reluctant to declassify and release the eleven documents via the mail as such an action would put them in the public domain. Should Subject insist on seeing the documents, DCD will consider sanitizing and showing them to him in the presence of an Agency representative.
- j. DCD also has one memorandum for the record which concerns an OGC trace on Subject's sons, dated 18 April 1975. A copy of this document is attached

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: P 76-028 - Mitchell Livingston WerBell, III

for your information. In light of paragraph one of OGC 75-4582, dated 10 December 1975, can we assume that this is not a record?

3. DCD suggests that a statement thanking Subject for his cooperation be included in the Agency's response to his request.

JACKSON R. HORTON
Chief, Domestic Collection Division

Attachments:
As stated

Distribution:
Orig. & 1 - Addressee
1 - Control
1 - DCD/Privacy
1 - OC/DCD

ro

Mitchell L. Werbell

24 FEB 1967

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

11/2/67
NO. *127900*

BIOGRAPHIC DATA

1. SUBJECT'S LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME WERBELL, Mitchell L.		3. DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH 8 March 1918-Philadelphia, Pa.	
2. ALIASES <i>127900</i>		4. SEX B. CITIZENSHIP Male US	
5. FULL NAME OF SPOUSE, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, CITIZENSHIP			

7. RESIDENCES (Including No., apt Street, Zone, R.F.D., etc.)		
FROM	TO	COMPLETE ADDRESS
	Present	Powder Springs, Georgia

CONTINUED

8. EMPLOYMENT			
FROM	TO	NAME OF EMPLOYER	COMPLETE ADDRESS
	Present	Leader of Organization to Combat Communism	Powder Springs, Georgia
?	?	Alexis, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia
?	?	Cool Roof of Georgia, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia
?	?	Werbell-South, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia

CONTINUED

9. EDUCATION (High school, college, graduate work, etc.)			
FROM	TO	NAME OF SCHOOL	DEGREE OR HONOR

CONTINUED

10. ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFORMATION, INCLUDING FULL NAME, CITIZENSHIP DATA ON PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

27 FEB 1967

4.51 CONTINUED

SECRET

E-12-79-00

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

MEM-008-74

Chief, Domestic Collection Division

11 January 1974

ATTN : Support Branch/OSS (Ryan/Lea)

Chief, [redacted] Field Office

Mitchell L. WerBell, III

REF : OSS-44-74, Dated 8 January 1974

[Thank you for referent.] For the record, subject has made no further effort to contact anyone in this office; similarly, we plan no attempts to get in touch with him. Thus the matter rests there at this writing. Should he call again, however, we will keep the advice [contained in referent] in mind in dealing with him.

[redacted]

[redacted] :mbj

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

SECRET

B 2. HODST CL BY 010650

4.51

B

EX-100

INTERNAL USE ONLY

1-12-79-00

Chief, [redacted] Field Office
ATTN : Mr. Bruce Malvaring

039-44-74
8 January 1974

Chief, Domestic Collection Division (Support Branch/033)

Mitchell L. Norbell, III

1. We have received subject's 291 file for additional information. Subject was of interest to this Agency in 1959 and was granted a POA in August of that year. This was cancelled in October 1959 when his information proved to be of little value and because it was suspected he was using Agency funds to promote his personal interests. He has subsequently attempted to pass himself off as an Agency employee. He is characterized by the file as unscrupulous, a "wheelor-dealer" and a promoter of grandiose schemes. The subject has been under investigation in 1970 by both the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the United States Customs Service for activities relating to possible mercenary activities in Abaco Island, Bahamas.

2. If the subject should contact your office again, we suggest you accept whatever information he has to offer but make no further commitments concerning Agency contact. Subject is well known to the appropriate task and is of extremely doubtful character.

3. We trust this memorandum will provide you with useful information concerning this subject. Thank you for bringing his name to our attention.

[redacted]

cc: Services Gr. (Control)
IP Files

FILE: MH-35810

REPLY CL BY 010830

INTERNAL USE ONLY

4.51

SECRET

(12-79-00)

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS

16 March 1971

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WRENCH, Mitchell Livingston, III -- Reversion of DDD Security
Clearance/Recent Contact
137635

1. The information reported in the enclosed self-inspection memorandum, regarding Subject's self-reported contact with our Miami Field Office, may be of interest.
2. Our Office of the General Counsel Civil Liberties Division have been apprised of Subject's recent activities.
3. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to [redacted] SAC, [redacted].

SECURITY

Enclosure: As stated above

[redacted] [redacted]

[redacted] [redacted]

4.51

SECRET

OCC (John Creany)
F12-79-00
MIH-056-71

Director, Domestic Contact Service

10 March 1971

ATTN: [redacted]
John Creany (OCC)
Chief, Miami Field Office

B

Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III

1. On 9 Mar 71 we received a long distance call, presumably from Powder Springs, Georgia, from subject, who is an old and unsavory contact of this office dating from 1959. Werbell has been involved in a variety of schemes, the latest of which concerned an abortive invasion of Haiti which John Creany was very much concerned about a year or so ago.
2. Werbell stated that the Department of Defense had just revoked his security clearance on grounds of Werbell's "frivolous behavior" in the Haitian caper. Werbell stated that he intended to "fight it to the Supreme Court", as he had always kept us and other elements of the US Government informed concerning developments in the Haitian matter.
3. Werbell asked if there was anything that we could do for him in the way of interceding for him with the DOD, and we informed him bluntly and in no uncertain terms that he was strictly on his own, and we could do nothing for him. He then asked if it would be worthwhile to subpoena Hart Combes. We informed him that it was up to his attorney to make such recommendations.
4. Werbell seemed to get the message, and then offered to keep us advised regarding an alleged forthcoming attempt on Haiti which is being sponsored by Rolando Masferrer, even though Masferrer is currently incarcerated in a federal prison. We told Werbell that if he wished to pass any information along we would accept it but under no circumstances should he attempt to elicit any information on our behalf. He agreed that he would operate on this basis and said he might be in touch with us again.
5. In view of Werbell's record we felt that this latest contact should be a matter of record and that OCC should be informed of developments.

JTC/coa a: [redacted] - 3/5 [redacted]

SECRET

GROUP 1
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC
DOWNGRADING AND
DECLASSIFICATION

7.51

11/15/69

DEC 2 1969

CONFIDENTIAL 031839Z DEC 69 CITE CONTACTS/WASHINGTON 2447
CONTACTS/MIAMI

FROM [REDACTED]

JOHN GREANEY, OCG, WILL BE COMING TO MIAMI MONDAY, 8 DECEMBER, IN
CONNECTION WITH THE TRIAL OF THE EIGHT INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED
IN THE BOMBING OF PORT-AU-PRINCE.

D-1127100

NEW SUBJECT: MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL OF ATLANTA IS MENTIONED
IN A (WASHINGTON POST) ARTICLE TODAY IN CONNECTION WITH ALLEGED
RECEIPT OF GUNS SHIPPED FROM VIETNAM THROUGH POLAR AIR FORCE BASE.

MR. GREANEY SUGGESTS THAT YOU AVOID, IF POSSIBLE, ANY CONTACT WITH
WERBELL.

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]

(F-12-79-00)

CONFIDENTIAL

Director, Domestic Contact Service
ATTN : [redacted]
Chief, Miami Field Office
Mitchell L. WerBell

31 March 1967
MEM - 028-67

A 127900

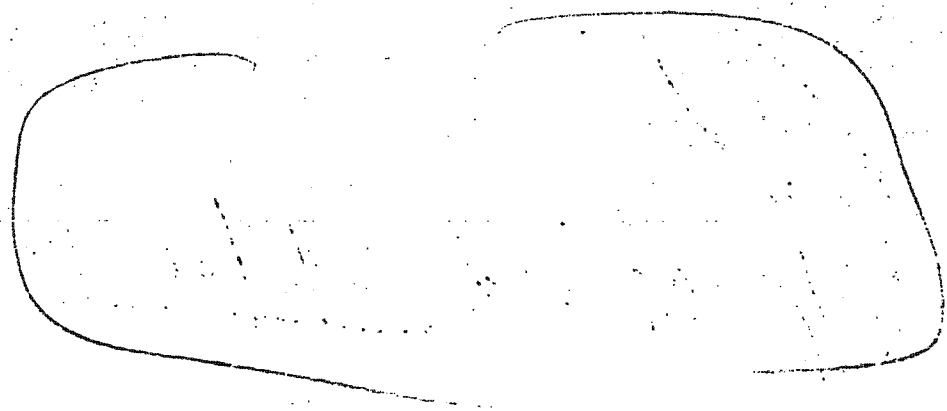
Think you will be interested in the attached clippings, which indicate that all charges have been dropped against WerBell.

(Please pass to John Greaney, Office of General Counsel.)

[redacted]

[redacted]:sb

Enclosures:



[redacted]

4.51
[redacted]

F-12-79-00

Miami Herald Herald

24 March 1967

att to Mem 098-17
dated 31 Mar 67, Sec 1
Mitchell K. Merrill

4.51

CONFIDENTIAL

F-12-79-00

Director, Domestic Contact Service

24 March 1967

ATTN :

Chief, Miami Field Office

MIM-036-67

Mitchell L. WerBell

A 127900

REF :

MIM-060-67

1. WerBell called the Miami office on 23 Mar 67 and when told that [redacted] was not in, advised the secretary that the Federal charges against him had been dropped. We have not confirmed this. We do not intend to renew our contacts with him for the time being at least.

2. Please advise John Orosney of the Office of the General Counsel of this development and give us whatever recommendations he or you may have as to our future relations with WerBell.

[redacted]

BIG:pm

4.51

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

CONFIDENTIAL

F-12-79-00

Director, Domestic Contact Service

2 March 1967

ATTN :

Chief, Miami Field Office

MM-060-67

Mitchell L. Werbell

A-127900

1. You will recall that John Grenney of the Office of General Counsel was in Miami for several days in connection with the federal case pending against subject Werbell was indicted on federal conspiracy charges, growing out of the abortive invasion attempt of Haiti a short time ago.

2. Following the indictment Werbell called us and indicated that he was to be interviewed on "nationwide TV through station WIS-TV in Atlanta." He called Harry McCrea and asked him to monitor local coverage, and [redacted] covered the WIS stations for a period of several days. Werbell did not appear on a national hookup, but Harry McCrea informed us that he did appear on a two-minute taped comment on the WIS-TV, 8:25 A.M. telecast only. Werbell said he would, if he could, "make a citizen's arrest of Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, et al, because he did no more than they did." Harry said that he didn't believe that the station took his statement seriously.

3. Werbell was also interviewed by "The Atlanta Constitution", and we are enclosing a clipping from the "Constitution" of 29 Feb 67 in which Werbell is quoted concerning the indictment.

4. Would you please pass the above to John Grenney. You might inform him that the statement of an undesignated federal official in Miami undoubtedly refers to the Customs agent in charge, with whom Werbell had a conversation prior to calling us. Werbell quoted him in the same fashion in our conversation. We have had no further contact with Werbell.

[Redacted signature area]

Enclosures
As stated

4.51

CONFIDENTIAL

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
COMM-FBI

F-12-79-00

SECRET

SECRET 231432Z CITECONTACTS/MIAMI 1714
CONTACTS/WASHINGTON

FEB 23 10 00 AM '67

ATTN: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

REF: A. MIAMI 1710

7-127900

[REDACTED] TELCONS OF 21 FEB AND 23 FEB 67

MITCHELL VER BELL CALLED [REDACTED] YESTERDAY TO ADVISE
THAT HE HAD RECEIVED TWO PHONE CALLS FROM CHET GRAY EXPRESSING
CONCERN OVER THE FACT THAT NO ONE HAD CONTACTED HIM FOR DETAILS
CONCERNING THE ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT REFERRED TO IN P-67-54
MIAMI 1710. [GRAY] STATED THAT UNLESS WE HEARD FROM SOMEBODY IMMEDIATELY,
WE SHOULD TAKE HIS INFORMATION TO THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA ON
THE MORNING OF 23 FEB 67. [WE] CURRENTLY HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR GRAY:
128 NORTH OAKHURST DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS; TELE: 274-4922.

SECRET

BT

Copy FI # B-67-54 (Chet Gray)

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS

24 February 1967

[Redacted]

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WREDSH, Mitchell L. -- Communication from [Redacted] re Alleged Infiltration of [Redacted] Foreign Diplomat [Redacted] [Redacted]

71-27100

REF : DCS mem: randa dated 21 February 1967, same subject

1. Please forward a copy of the enclosed self-administered survey form to Mr. Sam Popich. Mr. Popich was informed of this matter by phone on 23 February 1967.
2. Any questions pertaining to this survey should be directed to [Redacted] Mr. [Redacted]

SECRET

Enclosure: As stated above

CC: Mr. Sam Popich

VThorne:pat

4.51

SECRET

Control
F-12-79-00

DIARY, 23 February 1967

SUBJECT: Mitchell Verbell / *Chet Gray*

A-127900
B-67-54

Mitchell
[redacted] called to say that Verbell had heard from *Chet Gray* both yesterday and the day before expressing concern over the fact that no one had contacted him concerning the alleged assassination attempt against a foreign diplomat. *Gray* stated that unless he heard from someone immediately he would go to the Governor of California, 23 February. This information was passed to *Sam Penick* by phone.

cc: Chief, Mind Office

B-67-41

[redacted] :CG

Copies of all jackets!

[redacted]

4.51
[redacted]

SECRET

127900

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS

21 February 1967

ATTN: [redacted]

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WIRELL, Mitchell L. -- Recent Telephone Call from [redacted] of Los Angeles re Possible Assassination in US of Close Relative of Middle East Ruler

A 127900

1. The enclosed copy of teletype from our Miami Field Office is forwarded for your information [and immediate transmittal to the FBI.]
2. [redacted] of this Office, has discussed this matter with Mr. Sam Henson, FBI, who said the FBI will contact [redacted] and GUY, and will subsequently advise us of any action they might want us to take.
3. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to [redacted] 2731

SECRET

[redacted]

Enclosure: Teletype Contacts/Miami-1710 dated 20 February 1967

[redacted]:pat

4.51

[redacted]

[redacted]

Law Offices
of
Edwin Marger

P 76-028

LOP

- Edwin Marger (Fla. & Ga.)
- Roid Kennedy (Fla. & Ga.)
- Richard H. Lancia
- Robert O. Davis
- Donald B. Walker
- Nancy L. Finkel
- Allen J. Hall (Fla. & Ga.)
of Counsel

Telephone 256-8290
 Stone Lake (403)
 Suite 320
 6666 Powers Ferry Road
 Atlanta, Georgia 30339

December 30, 1975

Gene F. Wilson,
 Information and Privacy Coordinator
 Central Intelligence Agency
 Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of December 18th, 1975 concerning our client, Mitchell Livingston WerBell, III and his request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

I am enclosing a notarized statement providing you with the address and place of birth of Mr. WerBell.

With regard to your last paragraph asking for clarification as to which records he desires to have searched, we, of course, are not familiar with your files or filing system. Mr. WerBell spent sometime in the United States Army during World War II and has traveled extensively since that time. He was in Cuba at the time of the Castro military operation, in the Dominican Republic during that military operation and in Thailand and Viet Nam during the Viet Nam War. We feel quite confident your office must have extensive files and documentation concerning Mr. WerBell and this request for information is intended to

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4.49
 7-11-81 PGM


Gene F. Wilson
December 30, 1975
Page Two

cover all information contained in the files of your agency.

Should any of the matter contained in your files have a security clearance classification that would preclude its dissemination, we would appreciate being notified that the information exists.

We would appreciate your early attention to the foregoing.

Very truly yours,


Reid Kennedy

RK:dcn
Enclosure (1)

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF GEORGIA:
SS
COUNTY OF FULTON:

I, MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III, after first being duly sworn, do hereby, under oath, depose and say that my current address is 4321 MacLand Dallas Road, Powder Springs, Georgia, 37007. Further, that I was born on March 8, 1918, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

I further swear and affirm that I am the same MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III, whose signature appears below and that I am the same person who is making the request for release of information.

Mitchell Livingston Werbell
MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III

Sworn to and Subscribed before me, Notary Public, on the 5th
day of December, 1975.

[Signature]
Notary Public, Georgia State at Large

My Commission expires: _____

E-12-79-00

SECRET

Feb 20 11 55 AM '57

SECRET 2319377 CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1718

CONTACT WASHINGTON

ATTN: [REDACTED]

FROM: [REDACTED]

A 127900

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED A MOST UNUSUAL PHONE CALL FROM MITCHELL WERBELL, POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, DETAILS OF WHICH FOLLOW:

2. WERBELL IS A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WHO HAS BEEN IN OCCASIONAL CONTACT WITH THIS OFFICE, OF HIS OWN VOLITION, SINCE 1959. WHILE AN UNSAVORY CHARACTER, MUCH OF THE INFORMATION HE HAS FURNISHED HAS PROVED TRUE. HE FURNISHED COMPLETE DETAILS ON THE RECENT HAITIAN INVASION PLAN. THE PHONE CALL WAS RECEIVED BY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FROM HIM AT 11:00 HOURS ON 18 FEBRUARY. HE STATED THAT HE HAD JUST HAD A TELEPHONE CALL FROM [REDACTED] (CHET GRAY OF LOS ANGELES), NO ADDRESS (PHONE 214-4000)

File 6-67-57

3. [REDACTED] STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED REGARDING THE POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION IN THE U.S. OF A CLOSE RELATIVE, POSSIBLY A BROTHER OR SON, OF A MIDDLE-EAST ROYALTY, WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS. HE DID NOT FURNISH THE NAME OF THE ALLEGED VICTIM, NOR BY WHOM HE WAS APPROACHED. [REDACTED] TOLD WERBELL THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN AN INCIDENT THAT MIGHT CAUSE INTERNATIONAL

① F1 # 63-67-54 (Chet Gray)

PAGE 2 CONTACTS/MIAMI 1710 **SECRET**

REPERCUSSIONS AND ASKED VERBELL FOR ADVICE. VER

BELL ADVISED **GRAY**

TO INFORM THE FBI IN LOS ANGELES, BUT **GRAY** WAS RELUCTANT TO DO SO. VERBELL THEN ASKED **GRAY** IF HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK WITH A MEMBER OF CIA AND **GRAY** AGREED. VERBELL TOLD **GRAY** THAT IF A REPRESENTATIVE OF CIA CONTACTED HIM, VERBELL'S NAME WOULD BE USED AS ENTRÉE.

4. **THE ABOVE SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF THE "ARABIAN NIGHTS,"**

BUT I DID MEET A GUY GRAY FROM LOS ANGELES AT A LOCAL CONTACT'S HOUSE IN 1962, SOME DETAILS OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN COA(S)5601 AND COA(S) 5594 DATES 18 DEC 62. GRAY IS A NOTORIOUS HOODLUM AND MIGHT EASILY HAVE BEEN APPROACHED FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

4. PLEASE HANDLE THE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT.

SECRET

BT

PRIORITY VIA CITE VIA 1048.

REF: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: HUNGARIAN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON FIDEL CASTRO

REF: AIR 677-69 OF 17 DEC 69 [REDACTED] 127902

1. MITCHELL WERRELL ADVISED [REDACTED] THAT A GROUP OF SIX MEN IN HIS ORGANIZATION HAS PENETRATED CUBA AND IS CURRENTLY IN THE VARADERO/HAVANA AREA. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE IS ASSASSINATION OF FIDEL CASTRO TO BE ATTEMPTED BETWEEN 2ND JANUARY. IF FOUND NOT POSSIBLE, SECONDARY TARGET WILL BE TO BLOW UP THE ELECTRIC PLANT FURNISHING ELECTRICITY TO HAVANA.

2. THE GROUP IS TO USE AN AIRPLANE MODEL TYPE OF RADIO DETONATORS. THEY WERE UNABLE TO OBTAIN CONTAINED FREQUENCY RADIO DETONATORS WHICH WERE REFERRED BECAUSE OF WEAK QUALITY. THE DETONATOR ALLEGEDLY WILL BE THROWN IN CASES OR THEY WILL USE SUB-MACHINE GUNS IN THE COURSE OF A PUBLIC APPEARANCE BY CASTRO. NO INDICATION AS TO HOW THEY EXPECTED OR WHERE HE WILL APPEAR. GROUP SAID TO COME MISSION IS SUCCESSFUL.

3. ATTEMPT ON THE ELECTRIC PLANT WILL BE TO KILL GUARDS AND PENETRATE AREA FOLL. AND WHICH THEY WILL BLOW UP KEY EQUIPMENT.

4. WERRELL SAID THAT [REDACTED] ALSO ALLEGEDLY HAS A GROUP IN CUBA AT PRESENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSASSINATING FIDEL CASTRO.

5. PLEASE HANDLE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT. FYI: WERRELL IS A NOTORIOUS CON MAN AND A MASTER OF FORTUNE TELLING. HE IS CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE.

CFA 1208 TO COMBELL FIDEL CASTRO AIR 677 69 17 DEC 69 MITCHELL WERRELL

[REDACTED] A CUBA VETERAN HAVANA 3 9 JANUARY NOT POSSIBLE
UNABLE TO YAO IDENTIFY [REDACTED] CON. CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE

BT [REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Chief, Contact Division

27 July 1959

ACEM :

Index Branch

Chief, Miami Field Office

Memorandum of Visit to Mitchell Warball III
2211 Bogovia Circle
Coral Gables, Florida

1. In the evening of 24 July 1959 I received a telephone call from subject, who had been given my name and address by another segment of the intelligence community in connection with the possibility of his passing along late information concerning the rumored impending flight of Batista to the US.
2. Warball indicated that he spent a great amount of his time in the Dominican Republic and had extremely close association with leaders of the government, and also with General Jose Pedrasa. He claimed to have been a former member of the OSS with service in China in WWII. Warball is a soldier-of-fortune type who wears a monocle, drives a Mercedes-Benz, sports a most attractive blonde girl friend, and is a Big Spender. He also volunteered that he has a wife and six children living in Georgia.
3. Warball told me that his principle source of income is in dealing with Cuban pesos, and said that he is associated in the business with a Tom Lipko of Los Angeles, a jazz musician who formerly played with the Jimmy Dorsey and Jan Garber bands.
4. Lipko also claims to have been a member of OSS during WWII, serving in the Rumanian and Eastern European area. Lipko was busily engaged in making long distance phone calls to Mexico City, Guatemala City, and Los Angeles during a part of the time I was with the group.
5. Warball gave me some information on Batista's plans, which is basically supposition, and furnished some other marginal information which is being forwarded, although in my opinion little credence can be placed in anything he says. It is hard to evaluate what Warball's motives are in connection with his desire to furnish information regarding Batista to us, but it appeared that he was also attempting to fish for information, throwing out a number of questions concerning the Biltmore Terrace Hotel, reportedly recently to have been purchased by Cuban interests with 9 million Cuban pesos. The penthouse reportedly has been completely redecorated, with heavy steel doors guarding the entrance. This penthouse suite has been rumored to be Batista's intended headquarters once he arrives in the US. All of this has been written about in the gossip columns of the local papers.
6. Inasmuch as Warball has my name and phone number, probably little can be done to prevent him getting in touch with me from time to time, but contact will not be initiated by me except by direction. The basic purpose of this memo is for the record.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

The Atlanta Journal

Covers Dixie Like the Dew

Since 1883

James M. Cox, Chairman 1939-1957—James M. Cox Jr., Chair 1957-1974

Jack Torvor, President

Jack Spalding, Editor

22-A *****

APRIL 9, 1975

The Need for MARTOC

THE POSSIBILITIES of MARTA are both good and bad are tremendous. On the good side the area needs a rapid and economical transportation system. The area also needs a big construction project.

When MARTA was established it was apparent that the good it would bring was balanced by the tremendous possibilities for pain, rage and featherbedding. So a committee was established by the General Assembly to oversee MARTA and it was called MARTOC.

The area needs MARTA but it now needs MARTOC as never before.

Labor contract time is coming up for MARTA and upon its outcome rides the fate of the 15-cent fare. The chairman of MARTA's board is John

Wright, a labor man, and we have faith in Mr. Wright's statement that he would not be catching MARTA into problems delaying the construction of its rail system. Other with condemnation of the other with the agreement whether is insupportable but it mean more delay, more inefficiency of the operation.

MARTA's board is responsible for the handling of these matters today. The board isn't as yesterday's. We're happy to argue to back stop and the committee is aware of its duties here.

Which Domino Is Next?

4.51

C

F12-79-00

18 April 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Nerbell

1. On 17 April 1975, [redacted], DDO/FIO, called DCD on the green line to relay the following OGC priority request.

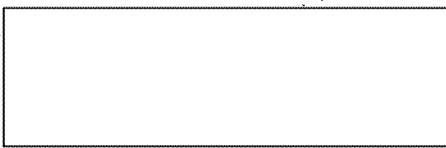
Please check Agency records for:

- a. Mitchell Werbell, IV
DPOB: 16 November 1949; Atlanta, Georgia
- b. Godfrey Werbell
DPOB: 21 June 1951; Atlanta, Georgia

These two have been charged with crimes...
alleged they work for CIA.

2. After checking DCD's records I found that DCD has had contact with Subject's father in the past. DCD's records reflect no direct contact with the sons. The only mention of the sons appears in an article published in The Washington Post, 27 December 1970, Section D, page 3 and a cable to FR/[redacted] 17 March 1975 (Director 670514).

3. DDO/FIO was notified of the above by telephone on 17 April 1975.



Distribution:

- Orig. - A 127900
- 1 - DCD/FOIA
- 1 - OC/DCD

11.40

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STAFF

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MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

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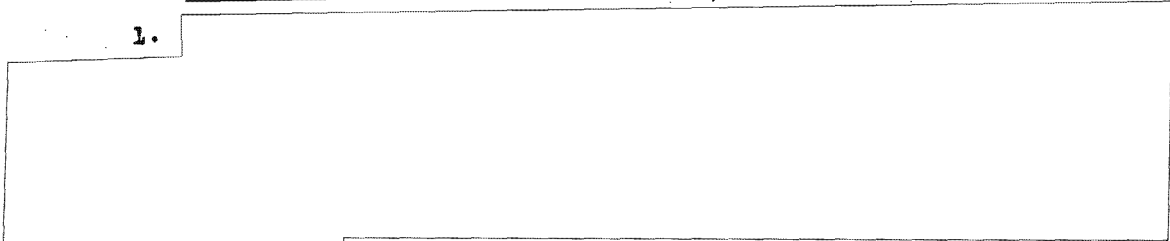
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 C/OPS LAID

TO: FR [] Y

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REF: FR [] 30417 [IN 511214] Y

1.



2. MICHELL L. WERBELL, III (201-259910) IS PARTNER OF DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL INC. OF POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, A LICENSED ARMS DEALER. HE BORN 8 MAR 1918, PHILADELPHIA. HAS HAS LENGTHY 201 ON WERBELL WHO HAS LONG HISTORY POPPING UP IN AREAS AND SITUATIONS WHERE CAN MAKE FEW FAST BUCKS. HE CHARACTERIZED AS UNSCRUPULOUS, WHEELER-DEALER AND PROMOTER OF GRANDIOSE SCHEMES. HE OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST IN MID-1959 WHEN BECAME INVOLVED WITH ANTI-CASTRO PLOTTERS IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND OFFERED PROVIDE BKHERALD WITH INFO ON REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES IN CARIBBEAN. HE GRANTED POA IN AUGUST 1959 BUT THIS CANCELLED OCTOBER 1959 WHEN HIS INFO PROVED BE OF

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4.37

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STAFF DIRECTOR

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LITTLE VALUE AND IT SUSPECTED THAT HE USING BKHERALD@ FUNDS TO PROMOTE PERSONAL INTERESTS. EVER SINCE, BKHERALD HAS BEEN DISCLAIMING WERBELL WHO HAS REPEATEDLY ATTEMPTED PROMOTE SELF AS REP OF LNUZZ AND BKHERALD. SINCE MUCH OF BKHERALD INFO ON WERBELL ORIGINATES LNERGO, WE SUGGEST LNERGO REP/NEW YORK PERFORM TRACE THROUGH HIS OFFICIAL CHANNEL. (ABOVE INFO MAY NOT BE PASSED FOREIGN NATIONALS BECAUSE WERBELL WODUAL CITIZEN.) Y

3. ONLY TRACE ON MITCHELL WERBELL IV IS THAT HE ALSO INVOLVED FATHER'S IN/ARMED ARMS BUSINESS TRADE. HE HAS HAD NO CONNECTION WITH BKHERALD. Y

4. FILE: 201-918267, E2 IMPDET.A

DATE: 17 MARCH 1975
 ORIG: [REDACTED]
 UNIT: NE/ARN/I
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 C/FR/B2

LA/COFS [REDACTED]
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<i>3</i>	<i>of [redacted] of [redacted]</i>	<i>of [redacted] of [redacted]</i>	<i>3</i>

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PAGE 01

IN 304568

TOR:120552 JUL 74

ATFR 00349

SECRET 112200Z JUL 74 STAFF

CITE FR/ [redacted] 00349

TO: DIRECTOR,

RYBAT ISOLOG

1. GEORGE KENNY, FBI SPECIAL AGENT IN [redacted] HAS ADVISED BASE THAT HOWARD GIBSON HEAD OF [redacted] BASE CENTRAL INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY OFFICE IN WASHINGTON AND FORMER SUBURBAN ATLANTA (COBB COUNTY) COP ADVISED HIM BY TELEPHONE THAT WASHINGTON OFFICE SUBLEASED BY HIM TO DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY BEING USED BY BKHERALD AS ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE I.P. GIBSON CLAIMS OFFICE IN CHARGE BKHERALD OFFICER WHOSE NAME GARGLED ON PHONE. KENNY BELIEVES NAME MAY BE CONERN. OFFICE IS LOCATED 4 OR 5 BLOCKS FROM WHITE HOUSE. KENNY WILL ATTEMPT OBTAIN ADDRESS.

2. OWNER CENTRAL INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY IS ATLANTIAN MITCHELL WERBELL WERBELL, LOCAL GUN RUNNER AND PRIVATE EYE ON WHOM DOD HAS REPORTED. WERBELL AND GIBSON CURRENTLY IN LITIGATION FOR UNKNOWN REASON. FBI AGENT KENNY STATES GIBSON PROBABLY CAPABLE SPREADING PARA 1 STORY WIDELY AS MEANS EMBARRASS WERBELL.

Let
Cheramo
Control
M. H. [redacted]
[redacted]

SECRET

4.38

UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional) Steve Van Cleave			
FROM: [Redacted]		EXTENSION NO	NO ATI-78-74
		DATE	21 June 1974
TO: (Office designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
1. Support Branch/OSS Attn: Grant			Lillian: Reference our teletype of 6/21/74. This is the unedited transcript we discussed. The tape has been cleared and this is the only copy. Reprinted
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4.37

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN PETERSON AND VAN CLEAVE - Tuesday, 6/18/74, 11:31

I had heard a rumor that, I thought, at the time that these guys, these idiots can't be doing this again, but in the last week I have picked up a great deal of information that I think needs to be known at this location that involves the Werbell group out of Powder Springs. Are you familiar with that name? [No, I'm not. Bill has been handling all of that and I just don't know anything about it. Mr. Van Cleave. You can give me what information you have and I will pass it on or do what we can, but Bill has been handling that entirely and we work different accounts and I'm sorry to say that I am totally unfamiliar with it.] Well, let me put it to you this way. Is there any way at all that you will be in touch with Bill, so that I could get this information to him by phone. [Well, he is up in Tennessee and we can get in touch with him, yes. I could give him a call.] Well let me give you a brief synopsis so that you can at least pass that on to him. And in the process, I'll have to give you a bit of background on this subject. I consider it very important, not from the standpoint of the fact that what these people are involved in now is starting to break, but I think it is extremely important that this location gets something in to indicate that their contact less than knows what is going on. Mitchell Werbell is a gun dealer basically. He has what is called a farm out at Powder Springs, Georgia. Basically, it is a place of property with a lake and a firing range and a big house and a gun shop below and a vault with about three thousand Ingram submachine guns and other assorted weapons. Now Werbell has been in and out of all kinds of things. He pops up all over. He loves publicity and he loves to imply a relationship with the Agency. Now, about a year ago they were involved with some people from Britain in an attempt to set up a secession of the Island of Abaco, at the time the Bahamas were granted their independence. Now this was a very serious thing; there were people including members of Parliament from London that came over here and they were going to have a small army on Abaco and the local settlers on Abaco were all for this because they were mostly white and the thing never got off the ground at that time. However, it was known, there were newspaper articles written about it. Lyndon B. Johnson, the Prime Minister of the Bahamas was incensed by this whole scheme and basically, if you could think of anything that would be against the best interest of the US and the Agency and everybody, it would be some idiotic scheme like this. About a few weeks ago, I heard a rumor from a source that this thing had been activated and at the time I called Bill and told him I thought I might have

suddenly grown bigger. And to be more specific about this, when I say that, I can tell you that it is a fact that last Thursday night the new Ambassador from the Bahamas in Washington got Congressman Andrew Young to one side at a reception and they discussed this matter with grave seriousness. OK, now, therefore I am positive that within certain circles in Washington this matter is being discussed at this moment. Now I also learned that last week the whole group of the Werbel's and their associates were in Washington and I'll give you the names that I know of for sure: Mike Oliver, who is a key figure in this. He represents several wealthy Americans and Britishers who have long had a dream of having their own island and establishing their own country. Now this sounds like something right out of cheap fiction; however, it is a fact. I have met Mike Oliver. And there are about six wealthy individuals, one of whom I think lives in the Bahamas, I believe two are in England, one of them I think is Lord Bellhaven who is a member of Parliament. He has been over to the farm recently and in Washington a few weeks ago with them. About three wealthy Americans, all older fellows with many millions. Now this thing came up once before about eight years ago when they bought a boat and Oliver went out into the Pacific and laid claim to the coral reef in the Samoan Islands I think it was and planted a flag on it and established the free sovereign state of Menerva. Life Magazine had a spread on this. And that lasted for about a week until the King of Samoa, or somebody, some Tribal King sent. [end of side of tape]

putting aside a piece of Nicaraguan soil and giving it extra territorial rights and I know they have money. To make a long story short, Oliver is involved in this. He came in, I understand, two weeks after the Bahamas got their independence and said we've got the money for the Abaco operation. Now I have it on good source from an informant in their organization that a month or so ago a U-Haul truck came up from Fort Lauderdale in the middle of the night and loaded up a bunch of guns and explosives and took them to Fort Lauderdale. The name of the man who drove the truck was Wally Gillis. He is a freelancer soldier of fortune type and someone who does a lot of things people do when they have money. I suppose you could buy a boat - you know, a good sized cruiser, can go to the Bahamas or wherever. Supposedly this material went to a warehouse in Fort Lauderdale but when it was being involved down there with a fellow named Ben Bernstein. Bernstein is not a narcotic people; he is a pilot and has airports and everything and that's

week was Mike Oliver, Mitchell Werbell, III, retired Colonel Robert Bayard, US Army who also lives in this area and is associated with Werbell and a fellow named Chuck Hall who is a resident of the Bahamas in Nassau, who is a key part of this operation. And I don't know who else but they were staying for several days at the Grammercy Inn, Washington. It is my understanding that they made contact there with a former agent of your organization, with an offer of substantial amounts of money for him to recruit covert types, para-military types, technicians - in effect, mercenaries. And I have reason to believe that he is reporting this information. I certainly hope so. So again, what I am showing you is that I think stuff is coming into Washington right fast. Now Werbell has been known to drop Mr. Colby's name to me and to many other people because he wangled - Werbell originally was in the OSS you know. So he has a lot of old friends who are OSS types in those days and I understand one of these old boys did have dinner with Colby and Werbell wangled his way into it a couple of months ago in Washington. So, that is all he needs to start dropping names like mad. He does know some people in and former people. Now I understand that they have also made contacts in Miami recently with two companies who manufacture electronic equipment and used the name of another former Agency man who is now with the DPA in Washington. Again, I have an informant in the organization who is about ready to break with them and he has told me all this. He was in the office when calls were made to these people, talking about buying electronic equipment which is illegal and using the name of this former Agency man in the DPA and indicating that they would like to see the equipment, that he'll probably arrange to buy some, that type of thing. And I know for a fact that that individual knows about this now and he is a good man and in good standing with everybody. But to summarize this, the point is this - the whole thing is idiotic scheme by a bunch of fools. It is financed by some wealthy idiots, you know, who have money and are behind the scenes and these fools - in other words, if someone came along and offered to help them to get involved in a scheme like this I wouldn't touch it with a 10 foot pole because it is totally against the interests of both governments involved. Even the slightest leak on it can cause a serious diplomatic problem, you know, regardless of how crazy it is, the fact is an involvement of this type involving Americans, anything that comes out, the first thing that is going to be is an Agency involvement. From this the Island of

is that it?] Yes. You see the Bahamas - I don't know how familiar you are with them, but they don't have an army or anything. They have a small police force and they have some small police boats, little 30 foot jobs that run around the Islands, and they are talking about establishing . . . [Aren't they still under the British protection for foreign troops?] I would certainly think so, but there are no troops stationed there; you follow me? But what I am trying to say is the implications of this thing which I know now are known in Washington by people. When you have the Bahamian Ambassador, the new Ambassador, getting a black American congressman from Georgia aside - you see these people talk a lot, that is another reason - anybody involved with them is crazy. They have all kinds of these mercenary types and they make calls all over in Miami and all over the world and talk about their schemes and it has broken somewhere, you know, along the line; probably in the Bahamas or Miami. [Well do we know now what the essence of the conversation was between the Ambassador and Young?] I think it expressed grave concern about this situation. I think some names were given of the people. You see they know who Werbell is because Pendling, in fact, one time made a very tough speech about this type of thing with the American intervention in the affairs of the Bahamas and the name Werbell is an international soldier of fortune. I am concerned about one thing: No. 1, I know it isn't going to get off the ground now. I knew it never would. It might have got off the ground but the thing is it's one of these things that could be so messy and opponents, let's say people on the other side would love something like this so they could capitalize on it forever - you know, reports hinting at secret involvement of an American intelligence agency and attempts to establish a base in the Bahamas. A good propagandist could just have a field day with this. So I have a feeling that unless I am really crazy I think people in your organization are aware at this moment of this thing surfacing in Washington. And that is why I am calling this office because I have given information here before on these people and I think that it's important that if somebody says - Hey, have you guys heard anything about them and you fellows say no, we haven't heard anything - you know. [Well you feel in your own mind that this is something that will come about in the very near future, this attempt?] No, I would have to say I have a feeling now the attempt will not come about at all. If enough people in Washington start asking questions and they do know the names of these people and if the former agent up there goes in and gives information to somebody naming the people, she come to me and the amount of money they offered

him to recruit people for this. That's why they were in Washington last week.

This fellow lives up there and he is now in the function of a private investigator but he is a former agent of your organization. So I just want to be sure that you fellows down here, you know, if someone asks a question, or if they don't then at least you throw a report in indicating that an informant here, namely me, and b name, has given you this information. Because there is another factor involved too. Werbell - see Bill knows about my relationship with him. I was forced to take Werbell to Argentina last year for a private client of mine. One of the Board of Directors thought he was the greatest international thing in the world and he was the biggest millstone I have ever had around my neck. I was down there defending against the ERP terrorist group and Werbell was running all over Buenos Aires with smugglers and prostitutes and everybody and dropping our names and getting drunk and hinting that we were big American secret agents. He stayed on after I left and nearly got picked up by the Federal police. They were friends of mine I might add, so I got the situation cleared down there. But he loves to talk to me. I do international security work for corporations and he wanted to get involved with me in business and I refused to have anything to do with him, you know. But he loves to get drunk and call me and brag. And he called me several months ago and told me he was working with a group in Bolivia and I said I hope it is the government. And he said Oh no, it's the other guys. And I said well, Mitch, you're crazy. It's not up to any private citizen or private organization to go anywhere in the world and get involved with people against the government. It just is trouble, that's all there is to it. And I forgot about that and he called me the morning after the attempted coup (ph) down there and named his source there as Lt. Colonel Gary Prado and as it turns out Prado was one of the two leaders of the attempted coup and he had shipped guns down there through New Orleans, through an intermediary named Phillips, and here again - well frankly, Bonzaire his General, Hugo Bonzaire, the strong man of Bolivia, and I don't think we have had relations with them. In fact, he is getting closer to the strong men down there and it is a known fact that he hates communist and he sends the troops out to kill them so what should anybody be doing trying to overthrow an anti-communist government. I'm an old country boy but that just doesn't make sense to me. Furthermore, a private individual. So because of this

they round up everybody and interrogate them and say where did you get the guns and they find Ingram and Ingrams only come from Werbell and then you have State Department you know, saying what is this, do you know who, down here trying to overthrow our government. And since Prado, by the way was leader of the troops that captured Shay Dravarro (ph) then once again you get into a good left-wing journalist can really weave a nice little story of that big bad Agency down there doing things again. So he is like a mosquito in that he doesn't accomplish anything but he is very dangerous in my opinion to our relations. Bad enough to mess up good things. [I will pass this on to Bill.] Well tell him this, that I was in Washington last week and let me emphasize again that I would be the most surprised person in the world if Senior Officers at Langley aren't aware as of the Friday, of this situation and through the Washington surfacing there, you follow me? And really I like Bill and what I'm trying to do, I'm putting myself in his position and this is his area and I know that reports, because I have talked to him before about them and I am sure that this has been made a matter of record. And I just think it would be nice for Bill to be able to say yes, my informant has given me information - this information. Because it will all tie in. You might mention too that within the last two months Werbell has visited Vesco in Costa Rica and after that visit a Vesco associate named Marino came up here from Panama and stayed at Werbell's. So he is dealing now with Vesco too and all of this is just nothing but bad. And he is implying, he talks to newspaper people and writers and he does imply and use names that he is not authorized to use and shouldn't use. I know that he is not an official or unofficial or anything else connected with your Agency but this is the way he is surviving. People are dealing with him thinking that really he is - there are enough problems happening as it is but all we need is one good left-wing newspaper man to get hold of this type of thing and get it in Jack Anderson's column or some place like that and have an official blast from the government of the Bahamas and then everybody in the world is going to think that the Agency was behind this and got caught. The reason I appreciate this, I think timing is important. I think the end of next week is going to be a little bit late because there might even be some public surfacing of this. So I think it is important that they know that this office does have access to information. I can be reached at my number here which is 255-7593 or at my home, which is 247-2474.

12-79-00

MAR 5 11 23 AM '74

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

C O N F I D E N T I A L 051349Z MAR 74 STAFF

CITE DCDA [] 12494

DCD/ []

ATTN: SUPPORT BRANCH/OSS (GRANT) *A-182014*
SUBJ: STEVEN VAN CLEAVE, INTELLIGENCE SERVICES, LTD., ATLANTA,
GEORGIA

REF : GRANT/HENNESSEY TELECON, 25 FEBRUARY, SAME SUBJECT

1. DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 21 JANUARY 1974 HE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM ANSELMO ALLIEGRO, *A-172650* 3501 ROCKYBROOK ROAD, MIAMI, FLORIDA, [] WHO ADVISED US THAT AN ACQUAINTANCE OF HIS IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA, STEVEN VAN CLEAVE, WANTED TO SPEAK WITH US IN CONNECTION WITH INTELLIGENCE MATTERS CONCERNING LATIN AMERICA. WE TOLD ALLIEGRO THAT VAN CLEAVE SHOULD CONTACT OUR OFFICE IN [] HOWEVER, ALLIEGRO SAID THAT VAN CLEAVE DIDN'T WANT TO DEAL WITH "RECRUITERS", RATHER HE WANTED TO SPEAK WITH A CIA OFFICER "IN THE BUSINESS OF INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION". WE TOLD ALLIEGRO THAT OUR [] OFFICE HAS THE SAME STATURE AS THE [] FIELD OFFICE, AND THAT HE SHOULD URGE VAN CLEAVE TO CONTACT OUR REPRESENTATIVE IN [] ALLIEGRO WOULDN'T ACCEPT THIS RESPONSE ON OUR PART AND INSISTED THAT WE AT LEAST HEAR WHAT VAN CLEAVE HAD TO SAY. FINALLY, HE AGREED TO ACCEPT A CALL FROM VAN CLEAVE SO THAT WE COULD TELL HIM TO CONTACT OUR [] REPRESENTATIVE.

4.36

PAGE 2 DCD [] 12494 C O N F I D E N T I A L

2. VAN CLEAVE CALLED US AT HIS EXPENSE FROM [] ABOUT FIVE MINUTES LATER. WE ADVISED HIM AT THE OUTSET THAT HE SHOULD SPEAK WITH [] IN THE [] PRESIDENT OFFICE AT HIS EARLIEST CONVENIENCE. WE EXPLAINED THAT OUR WORK FORCE IS DIVIDED GEOGRAPHICALLY RATHER THAN FUNCTIONALLY, AND THAT SINCE HE LIVES IN [] HE MUST DEAL WITH THE [] NO. WE PROVIDED HIM WITH THE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR THE [] NO, AND HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD CONTACT [] THE SAME DAY. WE CALLED [] TO ADVISE HIM OF VAN CLEAVE'S INTENTION TO CONTACT HIM. WE LATER LEARNED FROM BOTH [] AND VAN CLEAVE THAT THE CONTACT WAS MADE.

3. WE PRESUMED THAT WE WOULD HAVE NO FURTHER CONTACT WITH VAN CLEAVE. HOWEVER, WE WERE MISTAKEN. VAN CLEAVE PLACED AT LEAST TWO MORE TELEPHONE CALLS TO US FROM [] (AT HIS EXPENSE), AND ONE FROM []. EACH TIME WE ADVISED HIM TO CALL [] RATHER THAN US. HIS RESPONSE ON THESE OCCASIONS WAS THAT HE ALREADY HAD OR INTENDED TO KEEP [] ADVISED BUT THAT HE WANTED TO KEEP US INFORMED ALSO. THE LOCAL [] CALL WAS MADE TO ADVISE US THAT VAN CLEAVE WAS IN [] IN THE COMPANY OF TWO ARGENTINE POLICE OFFICIALS, WHOM WE COULD DENY IF WE SO DESIRED. WE AGAIN TOLD HIM THAT HE COULD REPORT TO ATLANTA.

PAGE 3 BCD/ [] 12494 C O N F I D E N T I A L

4. VAN CLEAVE TOLD US DURING ONE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED CONVERSATIONS THAT HE IS ACQUAINTED WITH MITCHELL WERRELL, PONDOR SPRINGS, GEORGIA, AND THAT HE HAD BEEN "PRESUMED" INTO TAKING WERRELL TO ARGENTINA WITH HIM IN LATE JANUARY 1974 BY OFFICIALS IN THE COCA COLA COMPANY, CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, WITH WHICH VAN CLEAVE HAD (OR HAD) A CONSULTING CONTRACT IN CONNECTION WITH COCA COLA'S SECURITY SYSTEM IN ARGENTINA. VAN CLEAVE ADVISED US THAT HE NEVER AGAIN WOULD HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH WERRELL BECAUSE THE LATTER HAD ACED SO BADLY DURING THIS TRIP. HE TOLD US THAT WERRELL HAD CONNECTED TO ARGENTINE OFFICIALS THAT HE (WERRELL) WAS SOMEHOW CONNECTED WITH THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, AND ON A FIRST NAME BASIS WITH "BILL" COLEBY, DCI. VAN CLEAVE TOLD US THAT WRITERS HAD DEGENERATED TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT HE RETURNED TO THE US WITHOUT WERRELL. (OUR MEMORY IS A BIT FUZZY ON THE CONTENTS OF THIS DISCUSSION, BUT WE RECALL SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT THAT WERRELL WAS INVOLVED WITH WIFE, WOMEN, AND SONS, AND VAN CLEAVE WAS AFRAID THAT WERRELL MIGHT BE ARRESTED BY ARGENTINE POLICE BEFORE IT WAS OVER.) VAN CLEAVE TOLD US THAT HE PERSONALLY NEVER HAD SO MUCH AS IMPLIED A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AGENCY TO ANY OUTSIDER.

A127900

A164

PAGE 4 DCD/ [] 12494 C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT MET VAN CLEAVE IN PERSON, BASED UPON OUR TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM HE APPEARED TO BE AN INTELLIGENT AND REASONABLE MAN. WE ARE SORRY THAT WE CANNOT PROVIDE A MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH VAN CLEAVE, BUT AS WE MENTIONED IN REFERENCED TELECON WE DID NOT MAKE NOTES DURING THE CONVERSATIONS NOR DID WE FEEL IT NECESSARY AT THE TIME TO WRITE A MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD SINCE WE BELIEVED THAT IT WAS A NORMAL, ALBEIT COMPLEX, REFERRAL TO ANOTHER DCD OFFICE. E 2 IMPDET CL BY 21265Z
C O N F I D E N T I A L

12-77-00

ATL-39-74
28 February 1974

Chief, Domestic Collection Division
Attn: Support Branch (OSS/Grant)

Chief [redacted] Field Office
Atlanta Resident Office

Resume of Contacts with Stephen Van Cleave

A-122014 A-127900

1. Jack Hennessy, [redacted] Field Office, called on 21 January 1974 to give us a source lead on Stephen Van Cleave and Mitch Herbell, both from Atlanta, Georgia. Jack briefed us on past [redacted] contacts with Van Cleave and suggested we might want to contact him concerning his activities in Argentina. At that time we were in the process of moving the office to the present location so did not contact Van Cleave until 25 January 1974. On that date we called, identified ourselves and briefly explained the reason for the call. His first question was, "Do you know Mitch Herbell" and does this have anything to do with him?" We assured him we did not know Herbell, and our interest was not related to him. Van Cleave suggested we come to his office at 1:00 that afternoon.

2. We arrived shortly before 1:00 at his office in 1714 W. Georgia Rd., N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. Van Cleave has a home office in a modern building located in a moderate to high rent district of Atlanta. After presenting credentials and a business card we asked if we might tape the interview. He said he preferred a tape if it was well as any future transactions, as he wanted to be absolutely sure any information he gave us was reported accurately. Enclosure #1 is a rough draft of the first interview. The actual tape has been erased. Some of this information was reported in OO-A(S)-302/0435-74. Secret, CIA Internal Use Only.

3. On 9 February 1974 we received a call from Van Cleave at home. He wanted to report in detail on a recent trip to Oakland, California, where he had supposedly met with police officials and discussed the Hearst kidnapping, the SIA, etc. We told him this was very interesting but not CIA business.

4. Van Cleave called again on 25 February 1974 to fill us in on a visit to the US by Argentine police officials and [redacted]. We prepared this information for dissemination as OO-A(S)'s. In view of recent developments we assume neither report should be disseminated. To complete your record of contacts, both reports are enclosed as Enclosures No.'s 2 and 3 (disregard the [redacted] report numbers, they will be used for future reporting or cancelled).

435

1C

ATL-39-74
28 February 1974

- 2 -

5. In the meantime the R G Murphy kidnapping came up to occupy his time until 26 February when he called to say he had some sensitive information of definite interest to CIA. When told we could not get into his office the following day due to a lack of transportation, he said he would come to our office. He reluctantly agreed. Late the morning of 27 February he came to our office and presented us with the information in Enclosure No. 4 (rough draft--the tape will be saved in case it is needed at a later date).

6. Not on the transcript but of possible interest, before leaving our office he said he was afraid he might be fired by Coca Cola on 4 March 1974. Briefly, what apparently happened (and this is his story) was:

a. When it was learned Reg Murphy had been kidnapped, Chief John Inman of the [redacted] Police Department called Van Cleave requesting his assistance. He asked Van Cleave to come to headquarters and work with Assistant Chief Mullins (we believe this is the correct name) on the Murphy kidnapping,

b. Van Cleave apparently expressed concern to the Assistant Chief that prominent members of Coca Cola Company residing in the Atlanta area might be targets for the same kidnapers,

c. The Assistant Chief agreed and went along with Van Cleave notifying, by phone, Coke officials,

d. Van Cleave had not cleared this action with his immediate supervisor at the Coca Cola Company,

e. Apparently the phone calls were made very late in the evening,

f. When the Murphy kidnapping was resolved, Van Cleave was called in by his boss to account for his actions. He apparently has not been able to justify the calls and this will be discussed at the meeting on 4 March. We suspect this may be his last official action for the Coca Cola Company.

SECRET

ATL-30-74
28 February 1974

- 3 -

7. Since receiving the 27 February 1974 call from OGS, we have checked with Charles Haynes and Bob Perry of the FBI. Both are familiar with Van Cleave and his operations. Perry confirmed that Van Cleave had passed the information contained in Enclosure No. 4 to the FBI. Perry had a few other things to say about Van Cleave that probably do not need to be repeated in this memorandum.

8. Concerning the future, we intend to be hard to reach when Van Cleave calls; if necessary, talk to him on the phone a few times to see if he gets the idea; then if all fails simply tell him we have been told to stay out of this business.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Enclosures
(as stated)

E 2 DEPT CL BY 010650

SECRET

4.35

SECRET

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

F-12-79-00

MIN-008-74

11 January 1974

ATTN : Chief, Domestic Collection Division
Support Branch/OSS (Ryan/Ames)

Chief, [] Field Office

Mitchell L. WerBell, III

REF : OSS-44-74, Dated 8 January 1974

Thank you for referent. For the record, subject has made no further effort to contact anyone in this office; similarly, we plan no attempts to get in touch with him. Thus the matter rests there at this writing. Should he call again, however, we will keep the advice contained in referent in mind in dealing with him.

[] :mbj

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

4.34

SECRET

SECRET
INTERNAL USE ONLY

F-12-79-00

ATTN : Chief, [] Field Office
Mr. []

OSS-44-74
8 January 1974

Chief, Domestic Collection Division (Support Branch/OSS)

Mitchell L. Worbell, III

1. We have reviewed subject's 201 file for additional information. Subject was of interest to this Agency in 1959 and was granted a POA in August of that year. This was cancelled in October 1959 when his information proved to be of little value and because it was suspected he was using Agency funds to promote his personal interests. He has subsequently attempted to pass himself off as an Agency employee. He is characterized by the file as unscrupulous, a "wheeler-dealer" and a promoter of grandiose schemes. The subject has been under investigation in 1973 by both the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the United States Customs Service for activities relating to possible mercenary activities in Abaco Island, Bahamas.

2. If the subject should contact your office again, we suggest you accept whatever information he has to offer but make no further commitments concerning Agency contact. Subject is well known to the appropriate Desk and is of extremely doubtful character.

3. We trust this memorandum will provide you with useful information concerning this subject. Thank you for bringing his name to our attention.

[] for []/b
cc: Services Br. (Control)
IP Files

FILE: WBI-25819

4.33

SECRET BY 010350

INTERNAL USE ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

12-79 00

Chief, [redacted] Field Office

12 July 1972

Director, Domestic Contact Service (DCS)

A-768546

A-168762

Palmdale-Sasferman (Sr.), Military Armament Corporation, Powder Springs, Georgia

REF : Van Nepper/Musulin telecons

A-127900

1. Attached per referent telephone conversation is copy of Ben and Patricia's check on records and listing from the Corporation, the company is in the business of selling parts and the address of the company is 10000 North 10th Street, S.W., Seattle, Washington 98148. It is noted that the company is a subsidiary of the Boeing Company known to this office as a contractor in the aircraft field.

2. This company, as well as other major contractors, have considerable financial resources. It is noted that the company is a subsidiary of the Boeing Company and is a major contractor in the aircraft field. It is noted that the company is a subsidiary of the Boeing Company and is a major contractor in the aircraft field. It has had previous military contracts.

3. Further information regarding the company is being obtained in connection with the investigation of the activities of the company. It is noted that the company is a subsidiary of the Boeing Company and is a major contractor in the aircraft field. It is noted that the company is a subsidiary of the Boeing Company and is a major contractor in the aircraft field. It is noted that the company is a subsidiary of the Boeing Company and is a major contractor in the aircraft field.

4. If we can be of further assistance in this matter, please advise.

JAMES H. ROBERTS

Attachment
C. Neuhoff/lll
cc: Services Division (Control)
PIND: HM 2500

4.32

SECRET

OCC (John Greany)

F 12 79-00

MIN-056-71

Director, Domestic Contact Service

10 March 1971

ATTN :

[redacted]
John Greany (OCC)
Chief, [redacted] Field Office

13

Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III

1. On 9 Mar 71 we received a long distance call, presumably from Powder Springs, Georgia, from subject, who is an old and unsavory contact of this office dating from 1959. Werbell has been involved in a variety of scrapes, the latest of which concerned an abortive invasion of Haiti which John Greany was very much concerned about a year or so ago.

2. Werbell stated that the Department of Defense had just revoked his security clearance on grounds of Werbell's "frivolous behavior" in the Haitian caper. Werbell stated that he intended to "fight it to the Supreme Court", as he had always kept us and other elements of the US Government informed concerning developments in the Haitian matter.

3. Werbell asked if there was anything that we could do for him in the way of interceding for him with the DOD, and we informed him bluntly and in no uncertain terms that he was strictly on his own, and we could do nothing for him. He then asked if it would be worthwhile to subpoena [redacted]. We informed him that it was up to his attorney to make such recommendations.

4. Werbell seemed to get the message, and then offered to keep us advised regarding an alleged forthcoming attempt on Haiti which is being sponsored by Rolando Masferrer, even though Masferrer is currently incarcerated in a federal prison. We told Werbell that if he wished to pass any information along we would accept it but under no circumstances should he attempt to elicit any information on our behalf. He agreed that he would operate on this basis and said he might be in touch with us again.

5. In view of Werbell's record we felt that this latest contact should be a matter of record and that OCC should be informed of developments.

[redacted]

[redacted] cas

a. l. [unclear] 3/15

SECRET

Dist. [unclear]

4.31

Mitch WerBell: Gunsmith to the 'Right' Side

By Roger Williams

The following is excerpted by permission from Atlantic magazine.

DOWN THE DRIVEWAY that snakes through the country estate came two teenage boys. They were clean-cut and handsome in the traditional college fashion, and they looked at home in the quiet, leafy setting. But one wore a camouflage suit and carried a large pistol in each hand, the other had an M-2 "grease gun" tucked under one arm and a silenced equipped sniper rifle under the other.

Behind them, propping himself victoriously in a wheelchair, came their father, Mitchell Hamilton WerBell III of Powder Springs, Ga.—soldier of fortune, militant anti-communist and one of the nation's leading developers of military weapons and accessories.

Mitch IV and Geoff chatted lightly about the weapons they were carrying. Their father, temporarily immobilized by a fractured heel, punctured the conversation with brief bursts of information about the sniper rifle, one of his most prized products. "This weapon had killed 1,000 VC in six months," he said proudly. "Those VC took only 13 rounds per kill. Twenty-seven cents apiece they cost Uncle Sam. That's the greatest cost effectiveness the Army's ever known."

Moments later young Mitch and Geoff pumped round after round from the weapons into the bullet-shattered bulk of an automobile that serves as the primary target on the WerBell firing range. Then Mitch began firing a pistol, a sighted Army 45. The gun jerked upward, and the noise echoed across the fields and treetops. He then worked up a strange, smoothly rectangular handgun, an Ingram Model 11, equipped with a "flash and muzzle suppressor," and began firing it. The muzzle barely moved, and the only sound was a metallic click, followed by the ping of the bullet and the pop as it hit the target.

The effect was eerie, almost chilling, especially when young Mitch put the gun on full automatic and whipped off five striking rounds in one second. Geoff provided the same kind of demonstration with the grease gun, a standard anti-air submachine gun and the sniper rifle which WerBell calls the NM-21 and which is also equipped with a suppressor.

On the way back to the house, WerBell explained why the suppressor, commonly called a silencer, is so effective as a firearm accessory. "It hides the muzzle flash and reduces the ping of the bullet as it hits metal on metal. You

never weapons given to him by friendly forces in Vietnam, he said, and they were shipped to the States for display in military museums.

Not surprisingly, WerBell has often been called an operative of the Central Intelligence Agency, a charge that angers him only when it is leveled too vehemently. It is not that he has anything against the CIA. He just doesn't, he says, happen to be one of its boys. His paramilitary work, which consists of advising and sometimes directly assisting foreign governments, is done in the employ of what he calls "an independent group of well-intentioned, patriotic Americans." The Birch Society? The Minutemen? A bunch of far-right Texas millionaires? WerBell won't say, other than to insist that it is not the CIA.

It hardly matters, for according to WerBell, it is all in the service not only of freedom and anti-communism but of the U.S. government; he does not supply or advise or fight for regimes not bearing the State Department seal of approval. A heavy percentage of his merchandise goes directly to the U.S. government, which distributes it to its own forces that need silent or exotic weapons. The balance is sold to friendly governments, either directly or through the good offices of the "independent group." He says he does not sell to individuals, not even if they're certified anti-communists.

WerBell takes pains to point out that he is no ordinary arms broker. That is, he is not one of those shadowy figures who sell weapons to both sides at exorbitant prices or who take possession of contraband shipments on the high seas. "We've always adhered to a basic policy: There is only one friend of the United States in a given area, and we deal only with that friend."

What does WerBell peddle? A range of firearms from machine guns to desk-sized cannons, from the meanest-looking weapons to innocent looking swaggar sticks that fire a bullet or even a small rocket; an array of techniques—"systems," he calls them—that will help an American soldier or a foreign army hold off insurgent forces, and occasionally, his personal services.

These services present WerBell at his most shadowy. Serving as a combatant in the armed forces of a foreign nation is against U.S. law, and WerBell is understandably reluctant to admit having done so. He describes himself in such terms as "paramilitary" and "adviser," but acquaintances suspect he has been in the thick of the fighting a number of times. He may even have



In Operational Doctrine and Counter-Insurgency Environmental Intelligence. In earned to develop a line hardware business. It came into the hands of the IV was all but a matter of insuring. As a result, he spent considerable time in the Dominican Republic in undercover working for the CIA. He was eventually missed out on a number of father took him to Miami, Fla. but the plans fell through.

One day Mitch and Geoff displayed a complete Ingram's machine gun, which brought out the interest of the boys. Mitch showed them the magazine, the trigger, the gun, and the bullet that had just come out. The boys were amazed at the precision of the machine gun. Mitch explained that the gun was used in the field. WerBell's machine gun is a secret. It is a small, light, and accurate machine gun, and it is the sort of machine gun that is used in the field.

In the same way, the swaggar stick is a small, light, and accurate rifle. It is used in the field, and it is the sort of rifle that is used in the field. WerBell's rifle is a secret. It is a small, light, and accurate rifle, and it is the sort of rifle that is used in the field. The rifle is used in the field, and it is the sort of rifle that is used in the field. WerBell's rifle is a secret. It is a small, light, and accurate rifle, and it is the sort of rifle that is used in the field.

The bulk of WerBell's sound suppressors and submachine guns are supplied on large as well as on small. In fact, he is actively on the way to machine guns and helicopter in Vietnam. Army Journal for a long time. Stonier, however, is a thing they could use now, possibly for use from relatively short range when using machine guns.

WerBell is a man of many talents. He is a soldier, a writer, and a businessman. He has been in the thick of the fighting a number of times. He may even have

elaborate system, and it's not until it
you can't hear the bolt noise. Anyway
in a combat situation, so for all practical
purposes the firing is soundless. Often,
the loudest noise is when the bullet hits
home. If it hits a human, it makes a
peculiar, thunking sound, like hitting
a watermelon."

'Compulsive Warrior'

MITCH WERBELL sounds completely
matter-of-fact when he talks about
firearms, and death, and with reason.
He has been in the military hardware
business for years, and he has either heard
or produced—or both—the thinking
watermelon sound many times—in Latin
America and Southeast Asia, in the U.S.
armed forces and as a paramilitary
"adviser." He is a compulsive warrior,
an armed crusader fighting against
"ungodly communism."

WerBell is not alone in this occupation,
but he practices it in a unique manner.
Most soldiers of fortune are nothing else,
and they live from one little war to the next,
brawling and boozing their way through
a tough and financially unrewarding life.

WerBell, by contrast, is a businessman
who dabbles in military adventure only
when and as far as it suits him. If combat
didn't titillate him, he wouldn't partake
of it. His business is supplying weapons,
not using them in anger. He specializes
in the weapons and techniques of
counterinsurgency, which may be roughly
defined as the forceful suppression of
coups d'etat, rebellions and the like.

The way WerBell operates, this means
defending established regimes, some of them
dictatorships, against armed revolt. This
political posture not only does not trouble
WerBell, it pleases him. "I have no objection
to dictatorship if it serves the interests of
the country," he says. Particularly if the
threat to those interests is from the left.
"Communism has no place in the Western
Hemisphere—or in any hemisphere. I am
totally opposed to it, and to the spread of
ideological germs and filth that it brings."

and again, WerBell's name in the news. The first issue of

Corporate Setup

THE HEADQUARTERS for his work,
the former Dobbs estate, is on Highway 360
just outside of Powder Springs in a remote
section of Cobb County. Actually, corporate
headquarters is in Washington, in a firm
called Environmental Industries, Inc.—a neat
euphemism for a company dedicated to
killing people. Environmental Industries,
WerBell says, is bankrolled by some of the
East's most prominent investment houses; it
is its director of international operations. He
is also president of a subsidiary called
Military Armaments Co., Inc., and because
he is in Powder Springs, Military Armaments
is there, too. (Behind Environmental Industries,
WerBell says, is "a third shadow of which
E.I. is a subsidiary"—another tantalizing
hint of the CIA.)

Military Armaments may well be a unique
American enterprise. Nobody else, WerBell
says, is in the business of designing special
purpose weapons on such a scale. A good
deal of its designing and manufacturing is
done under federal license. Silencers, for
example, are outlawed by the National
Firearms Act, along with sawed-off
shotguns, submachine guns and other
vestiges of Prohibition era gangland wars.

To manufacture his suppressors, WerBell
must pay a special tax of \$500 a year,
collected by the Treasury Department. The
T-men also check periodically to see that
his awesome collection of firearms—over 200
individual pieces—is properly registered.
Apparently the market for suppressors is not
very large because, according to WerBell,
his firm is the only one authorized to
manufacture them.

WerBell will not discuss the sales or profits
of Military Armaments except to say that,
after two years of extensive research and
development (resulting in "a tax loss of a
half million dollars"), his firm is now doing
very well. It has about 12 employees, including
four machinists who work under the direction
of Gordon Ingram, who has charge of the
design operation and whose name is on the
Model H submachine gun. Mitch demon-



Mitchell WerBell dresses the part of his private arsenal in Georgia, where he makes specialized light weapons for the U.S. Army and other counterinsurgency forces around the world. Beside him is his son, Geoff. The braces were only temporary, while WerBell recovered from a leg injury.

WerBell six children and put up with his
rather unusual way of life. (When he left
for the Far East in 1968, he said he'd be
gone for a year or more, and he was.)

A Military Profile

MITCHELL WERBELL is a short, wiry
man of 52, quick with a quip and quite
sensible until he begins talking about
communism or other social issues. He has
the face and bearing of a Prussian officer,
cultivated by wearing a mustache and
occasionally a monocle. He often dresses
in military clothing of indeterminate
origin, and he embellishes the image by
talking in slightly clipped sentences
peppered with military phrases. There is
nothing phony in this. WerBell has a
strong attachment to weapons and to
warfare, and he has been around them so
long that the ideas and styles they foster
are an ingrained part of his personality.

He comes by both his militarism and his
anticommunism honestly. His father was
an officer in the Russian Imperial Army,
even though he was born in the United States.
"It was a tricky situation," says Mitch.
"He was a citizen of both the U.S. and
Russia. In those days you could do that."

The elder WerBell fought against the
Bolsheviks, but before the collapse of the
czarist regime he wisely secured an
appointment as liaison officer between the
Russian and American forces—stationed
in the U.S. He lived in this country for
the rest of his life, putting his early
medical training to use in cancer research.

A legacy from father is Mitch's
barely disguised aristocratic sympathy

for a department store. Soon he was
head of the department, and soon after
that he went on his own.

In the mid-50s, WerBell pulled out of
his agency and then formed his own
public relations firm. "I'd already been
drifting into international PR," WerBell
says, "using my family background. I
had tremendous contacts in Europe, and
I moved into the Far East, too." How
much of this moving in was military,
WerBell won't say, but his business took
on more and more of what he calls a
"geopolitical" flavor.

Before long, he was dabbling in Latin
American dictatorships. "Before Fidel
took over in Cuba, we were working
closely with Batista," he adds with a
grimace. "Our function was to keep
Batista in power, although the U.S.
government was looking favorably on
Fidel at that point."

From all this, even WerBell doesn't
know exactly how, came a passionate
concern about communism. "I decided to
devote whatever time I could to
anticommunist activities," he says. "At
first it was sort of a hobby, but then it
became my main drive in life. What I'm
doing now—here he gestures at the
arsenal on his office walls—affords me
a damned good living. But the living is
not why I do it."

The Heart of It

IN 1948, WHILE anticommunism was
still a hobby, albeit a paying hobby,
WerBell purchased the Dobbs estate. He
installed rudimentary design facilities
and began experimenting with weapons
of counterinsurgency, weapons he
believed had the best chance of
prevailing against Communist takeovers
in the small, underdeveloped nations of

who had both the savvy and the guts to
help preserve them.

His first major paramilitary operation
was in the Dominican Republic during
the 1965 revolt. He was, of course, on
the side of the government, which was
fending off allegedly Communist
insurgents; the United States was on
his side, too. WerBell wound up in the
midst of the fighting. He was the
second Dominican government man to
reach the Ozama River, scene of the
major battle.

Ellsworth Bunker, then U.S. ambassador
to the Organization of American States,
became highly exercised over WerBell's
activities and his hawkish views on the
conflict (WerBell opposed a cessation of
hostilities and establishment of a
coalition government). Bunker considered
trying to toss WerBell out of the country,
but nothing came of it. WerBell's
"independent group"—CIA, Texas
millionaires or whatever—saw to that.

WerBell was already active in the anti-
Castro movement, and he brought to it a
sense of dash and discipline that the
rattling, bickering bunch of Cuban exiles
had seldom seen. Perhaps his major
anti-Castro exploit was a speedboat
foray into Camarioca, on Cuba's
southern coast. The mission was to
drop a swimmer, apparently a spy,
offshore, and to pick up the family of an
exile leader. The boat, flying the
Confederate flag on the radio antenna,
foundedered in high seas, and the
raiding party was captured. The Cubans,
the story goes, did not know what to
make of the brass WerBell, and he and his
pals wound up greasing a Castro boat
and splitting some 30 anti-Castroites
out of the country before they themselves
returned to the United States.

fully at the Ingram model's
toward making them standard
ment of American soldiers. It
pens, financial success of
Armaments was presumably
sured. According to data pub-
the firms, the Ingram model
shorter, lighter and capable of
ing more firepower than any
the market. They are also,
says, ideal for secret agents
anally into a dispatch case.
Armaments makes the case,
plete with suppressor and
sides.

Business Is Business

DOES WERBELL feel a
conscience about producing
world with such deadly
weapons? No. "I see no
concern," he says. "We're
a certain product that is
a part of the civilized world.
People exist, there's going
arms business. I don't see
ence between our supplying
combatants and a surgeon
hour supplying gauze to his
wounds inflicted."

There is his anticommunist
ment, too. WerBell is
Communist menace; it is a
must be won and weapons
to win it.

Contrary to cynical opin-
Springs was not named in
WerBell and his enterprise
In fact, stays as close from
community as possible. His
well-stocked, it is practically
cunt save for occasional
grocery and liquor stores.
been, from time to time,
feeling in Powder Springs.
clears, "The hell with it.
tell 'em I'm prepared to
property if they don't like
He does not suffer from
however. There is a steady
visitors and customers, be-
well as Americans. A few
WerBell's son-in-law, an Ar-
tenant colonel, flew in
mainly to see what was
the shop; he hadn't been
months, he said, "and this
awfully quickly around here.
I was there, the colonel
swapped ideas on riding the
partment of no-ole police
on bringing the money to

...of the ... drawing and ... through a tough and ... life.

WerBell, by contrast, is a business- man who dabbles in military adventures only when and as far as it suits him. If combat didn't utilize him, he wouldn't partake of it. His business is making weapons, not using them in wars. He specializes in the weapons and techniques of counterinsurgency, which may be roughly defined as the lawful suppression of coups, riots, rebellions and the like.

When WerBell operates, this means defending established regimes, one of them dictatorships, against their overthrow. This political posture usually does not trouble WerBell, it makes him smile. "I have no objection to dictatorship if it serves the interests of the country," he says. Particularly if the threat to those interests is from the left. "Communism has no place in the Western Hemisphere—or in any hemisphere. I am totally opposed to it, and to the spread of ideological germs and faith that it brings."

Now and again, WerBell's name goes into the news. The first issue of the new mucktaking magazine, *Scoop*, carried an exhaustive story on his involvement in an abortive invasion of Haiti in 1966, and WerBell was charged with a major, if uncertain, role in the operation. WerBell was arrested and indicted, after the fiasco, on charges of arms smuggling. He was released, and other charges were dropped. He said he was arrested because he was a friend of a friend for an ex-convict. WerBell replied jauntily, "When you work for the company, you take care of you. I'll never hear another word about it." So far he has not.

In December, WerBell bit the dust page of *The Atlanta Constitution* when a shipment of captured enemy weapons bound from Vietnam was detained at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. A national columnist conjectured that WerBell or his friends meant to distribute the weapons to right-wing extremist groups in the U.S. WerBell quickly denies that. They were souve-

ligning and manufacturing is done under federal license. Silencers, for example, are outlawed by the National Firearms Act, along with sawed-off shotguns, submachine guns and other vestiges of Prohibition-era gangland wars.

To manufacture his suppressors, WerBell must pay a special tax of \$500 a year, collected by the Treasury Department. The Treasurers also check periodically to see that his awesome collection of firearms—over 200 individual pieces—is properly registered. Apparently the market for suppressors is not very large, because, according to WerBell, his firm is the only one authorized to manufacture them.

WerBell will not discuss the sales or profits of Military Armaments, except to say that, after two years of extensive research and development (resulting in a tax loss of a half million dollars), the company is now doing very well. It has about 12 employees, including four machinists, who work under the direction of Gordon Ingram, who has charge of the design operation and whose name is on the Model 11 submachine gun that young Mitch demonstrated on the firing range.

'Cottage Industry'

INGRAM WORKS in a well-equipped machine shop-lab attached to the main house on the estate, which WerBell likes to call "the farm." WerBell's office is next door to the shop. His walls are so loaded with weapons that it is a wonder they do not collapse. There are knives and spear guns and pistols and rifles and machine guns, dozens and dozens of them, some purchased, some won in combat, some presented by the appreciative recipients of WerBell's counterinsurgency techniques.

WerBell, who has a sense of humor, calls his enterprise a "cottage industry" and likens himself to "a country doctor." "I can fall out of the living area upstairs right down to the office." upstairs is the domain of his German-born wife Hildegard, a pleasant, gray-haired woman who has borne

cultivated by wearing a mustache and occasionally a monocle. He often dresses in military clothing of indeterminate origin, and he embellishes the image by talking in slightly clipped sentences peppered with military phrases. There is nothing phony in this. WerBell has a strong attachment to weapons and to warfare, and he has been around them so long that the ideas and styles they foster are an ingrained part of his personality.

He comes by both his militarism and his anticommunism honestly. His father was an officer in the Russian Imperial Army, even though he was born in the United States. "It was a tricky situation," says Mitch. "He was a citizen of both the U.S. and Russia. In those days you could do that."

The elder WerBell fought against the Bolsheviks, but before the collapse of the czarist regime he wisely secured an appointment as liaison officer between the Russian and American forces—stationed in the U.S. He lived in this country for the rest of his life, putting his early medical training to use in cancer research.

A lezacy from father is Mitch's barely disguised aristocratic sympathies. He has been quoted as saying, "Communism is a substitution of a peasant dictatorship over the aristocracy—I prefer the aristocracy." He is without question an elitist. Not surprisingly, his elite is composed of superpatriots and military men.

Mitchell WerBell was born in Pennsylvania, shortly after his Russian-American father and his Scottish-born mother arrived in the U.S. at the end of World War I. His parents traveled a good deal, here and abroad, and Mitch traveled with them, picking up his education as he went. He got a degree in journalism from the University of Pennsylvania. In World War II, he joined the OSS, and served with a unit behind Japanese lines in China, rising to the rank of captain and acquiring a taste for guerrilla-type warfare he would never lose.

WerBell moved to Atlanta shortly after the war and went to work in ad-

vertising. He was a member of the ...

Before long, he was dabbling in Latin American dictatorships. Before Fidel took over in Cuba, he was working closely with Batista. "He adds with a grin, "Our function was to keep Batista in power, although the U.S. government was looking favorably on Fidel at that point."

From all this, even WerBell doesn't know exactly how, came a passionate concern about communism. "I decided to devote whatever time I could to anticommunist activities," he says. "At first it was sort of a hobby, but then it became my main drive in life. What I'm doing now—here by gestures at the arsenal on his office walls—affords me a damned good living. But the living is not why I do it."

The Heart of It

IN 1946, WHILE anticommunism was still a hobby, about a paying hobby, WerBell purchased the Dobbs estate. He installed rudimentary design facilities and began experimenting with weapons of counterinsurgency. Weapons he believed had the best chance of preventing Communist takeovers in the small, underdeveloped nations of Asia and Latin America. "I realized that in counterinsurgency, the primary problem was a lack of depth in weaponry. People say, 'Win the hearts of the enemy, and you'll win the fight.' That's a lot of bull. The best way to get their hearts, if they're the enemy, is to shoot 'em and cut the hearts out."

While he experimented with weapons—quietly, to avoid problems with the feds—WerBell presented with his personal brand of propolitics. He made himself available to anticommunist regimes that wanted help in fighting off one band of insurgents or another. In the process, he became friendly with a number of Latin America's political strongmen. They were delighted to discover a Non-American who felt as they did about the need for stable, anticommunist regimes, especially their regimes, and

...to the Organization of American States, became highly exercised over WerBell's activities and his hawkish views on the conflict (WerBell opposed a cessation of hostilities and establishment of a coalition government). Bunker considered trying to toss WerBell out of the country, but nothing came of it. WerBell's "independent group"—CIA, Texas millionaires or whatever—saw to that.

WerBell was never active in the anti-Castro movement, and he brought but a sense of dash and discipline that the rapid, bucking bunch of Cuban exiles had seldom seen. Perhaps his major anti-Castro exploit was a speedboat foray into Camariaca, on Cuba's southern coast. The mission was to drop a swimmer, apparently a spy, offshore, and to pick up the family of an exile leader. The boat, flying the Confederate flag on the radio antenna, foundered in high seas, and the raiding party was captured. The Cubans, the story goes, did not know what to make of the brash WerBell, and he and his pals wound up sailing a Castro boat and spiriting some 10 anti-Castroites out of the country before they themselves returned to the United States.

Vietnam Superhawk

IN THE LATE 60s, WerBell turned his attention to Southeast Asia. He is, of course, a superhawk on Vietnam, and would be happy if the U.S. were also fighting communists in all its neighboring countries. He was in Thailand, "working closely with the supreme command," for months, promoting the sales of his weapons and systems. "I showed them things like surveillance equipment and night vision equipment, stuff that lets you surprise the hell out of the bastards." Did he do any fighting himself? WerBell chuckles. "I ain't supposed to be shooting the stuff, just demonstrating how to shoot it."

Three years ago, WerBell's weapons business became promising enough for him to go into it full time. He organized a firm called Sinsac (for Sinsac

...wounds inflicted

There is his active interest in Communist matters. It is a fight that must be won and weapons are needed to win it.

Contrary to cynical opinion, Fox Springs was not named in honor of WerBell and his enterprise. "Fox" in fact, stays as much from the community as possible. His house is well stocked, it is tactically well situated for emergency escape to greenery and backwoods stores. There have, from time to time, anti-Castro feelings in Fox Springs. WerBell claims, "The hell with it. Who care tell 'em I'm prepared to purchase it property if they don't like the area."

He does not suffer from boredom. However, there is a steady stream of visitors and customers, foreign as well as American. A few weeks WerBell's moon lander, an Air Force transport colonel, flew in from Miami to see what was new in the shop; he said he had been in the shop, he said, "and things are awfully quickly around here. The I was there, the colonel and WerBell swapped ideas on ending the State Department of non-intervention policy makers on bringing the enemy to the knees in Vietnam."

WerBell recalls with relish particular visits. He came from the Department a few years back, and according to WerBell, he said, "The intentions of the foreign policies of United States are the business of State Department in Washington. Of Mitchell WerBell in Fox Springs, Georgia." WerBell's response: "You can't print it. It was all in Air Force words." But that was the swashbuckling WerBell. The new profile WerBell says with a grin, present policy is that I agree with theory completely. Period."

If actions to the contrary speak loudly, they, like WerBell's weapons, can always be suppressed by himself. Meanwhile, Mitch and his dependent group march on.

By The Staff

F-72-79-10

Dec 3 12:57 PM '69

C O N F I D E N T I A L 231638Z DEC 69 CME CONTACTS [REDACTED] 24673

CONTACTS/MIAMI

FROM [REDACTED]

JOHN GREANEY, OSG, WILL BE COMING TO MIAMI MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER, IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRIAL OF THE NINE INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN THE HOUSING OF PORT-AC-PRINCE.

D A127700

NEW SUBJECT, MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERRELL OF ATLANTA IS MENTIONED IN A (WASHINGTON POST) ARTICLE TODAY IN CONNECTION WITH ALLEGED RECEIPT OF GUNS SHIPPED FROM VIETNAM THROUGH FOLLY AIR FORCE BASE. MR. GREANEY SUGGESTS THAT YOU AVOID, IF POSSIBLE, ANY CONTACT WITH WERRELL.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

NOV 24 1969

4.28

SECRET

F-12-79-01
15 May 1969

ATTN : Director, Domestic Contact Service
038

MIN-084-69

Chief, Miami Field Office

Local OSI Inquiry Regarding Information on Mitchell
L. Warbell P

1. On 15 May 1969, Special Agent Dave Floumen, local OSI representative, USAP, visited the Miami Field Office to solicit any information we might have regarding Mitchell L. Warbell who apparently is undergoing a security clearance check as the result of presently being employed by a company with a government contract.

2. Warbell was an unsolicited contact of this office beginning in 1959 and he reached peak notoriety in November 1967 as a result of his involvement in the Rolando Masferrer trial in connection with the abortive Haitian invasion. John Greaney, OSI was in Miami at the time to oversee Agency interests.

3. Floumen in contacting other US Government agencies locally including the US Attorney's Office somehow received an indication that CIA had information on Warbell; thus Floumen's visit to the Miami Field Office.

4. It was indicated to Floumen, who is known personally by several members of this staff, that we knew of Warbell and that on occasion he had reported unsolicited information. It was suggested, however, that Floumen direct his request officially through channels via OSI's agency liaison officer in Washington.

5. This is for background and is being forwarded at the suggestion of local CIA Security.

JEM:psw

427

I. 1.e

~~Hold~~
F-12-79-00

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535
Special Agent in Charge

On March 28, 1967
NY 100-886487

Reference is made to A 127900

1. Verball called the New York Office on 25 Mar 67 and then told that [redacted] had not in, advised the assistant, that the Federal charges [redacted] had not been dropped. [redacted] had not contacted him. He is not going to make any statement until he has consulted with [redacted].
2. Please advise John [redacted] of the Office of the General Counsel of the Department and advise whether you will be in NY or you may attempt to contact [redacted] with Verball.

Answered by [redacted] phone - Advised
he Contact -

MSC 30/7

Copy sent to
Mr. Green, 28 Mar 67
by I.D.
Carter

4.24

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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F-12-79-00

Director, Domestic Contact Service

20 March 1967

ATTN :

MDI-086-67

Chief, Miami Field Office

Mitchell L. Werball A 127900

REF : MDI-060-67

1. Werball called the Miami office on 23 Mar 67 and when told that Bart Gonzalez was not in, advised the secretary that the Federal charges against him had been dropped. We have not confirmed this. We do not intend to renew our contacts with him for the time being at least.

2. Please advise John Grenney of the Office of the General Counsel of this development and give us whatever recommendations he or you may have as to our future relations with Werball.

: jw

4.23

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SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F 12-79-00

Director, Domestic Contact Service

2 March 1967

ATTN :

Chief, Miami Field Office

MDA-060-67

Mitchell L. Werball

A 127900

1. You will recall that John Greeney of the Office of General Counsel was in Miami for several days in connection with the federal case pending against subject. Werball was indicted on federal conspiracy charges growing out of the abortive invasion attempt of Haiti a short time ago.

2. Following the indictment Werball called us and indicated that he was to be interviewed on "nationwide TV through station WSB-TV in Atlanta." We called Harry McCrea and asked him to monitor local coverage, and to cover the EMV stations for a period of several days. Werball did not appear on a national hookup, but Harry McCrea informed us that he did appear on a two-minute taped segment on the WSB-TV, 3:25 A.M. telecast only. Werball said he would, if he could, "make a citizen's arrest of Dwight Eisenhower, John McCone, et al, because he did no more than they did." Harry said that he didn't believe that the station took his statement seriously.

3. Werball was also interviewed by "The Atlanta Constitution", and we are enclosing a clipping from the "Constitution" of 23 Feb 67 in which Werball is quoted concerning the indictment.

4. Would you please pass the above to John Greeney. You might inform him that the statement of an undesignated federal official in Miami undoubtedly refers to the Customs agent in charge, with whom Werball had a conversation prior to calling us. Werball quoted him in the same fashion in our conversation. We have had no further contact with Werball.

Enclosure:
As stated

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F-12-79-00

~~SECRET~~

FEB 23 10 01 AM '67

~~SECRET~~ 231432Z CITECONTACTS/MIAMI 1714

CONTACTS/ [redacted]

ATTN: [redacted]

SUBJECT: ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

REF: A. MIAMI 1714

H-127900

B. MC CONNELL/ [redacted] TELCONS OF 21 FEB AND 23 FEB 67

MITCHELL WEBB BELL CALLED WALT BONZALES YESTERDAY TO ADVISE THAT HE HAD RECEIVED TWO PHONE CALLS FROM CHEF GRAY EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE FACT THAT NO ONE HAD CONTACTED HIM FOR DETAILS CONCERNING THE ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT REFERRED TO IN *P-67-54* MIAMI 1710. GRAY STATED THAT UNLESS HE HEARD FROM SOMEBODY IMMEDIATELY, HE WOULD TAKE HIS INFORMATION TO THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA ON THE MORNING OF 25 FEB 67. WE CURRENTLY HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR GRAY: 324 NORTH OAKHURST DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS; TEL: 874-4922.

BT

Copy F/ # B-67-58 (Chef Gray)

~~SECRET~~

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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

4.21



~~SECRET~~

Control
F-12-79-00

DIARY, 23 February 1967

SUBJECT: Mitchell Worbell/Chet Gray

Mitchell / *A-127900*
ue *B-67-54*

[redacted] called to say that Worbell had heard from Gray both yesterday and the day before expressing concern over the fact that no one had contacted him concerning the alleged assassination attempt against a foreign diplomat. Gray stated that unless he heard from someone immediately he would go to the Governor of California, 23 February. This information was passed to Sam Payton by phone.

cc: Chief, Miami Office

B-67-41

[redacted]:23

Copies of all jackets!

2-20 2/20/67

4.20

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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

F-12-79-00

~~SECRET~~

FOI 28 11:52 AM '87

~~SECRET~~ 2019322 CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1710

CONTACTS/ [redacted]
ATTN: [redacted]
FROM: [redacted]

A 127900

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED A MOST UNUSUAL PHONE CALL FROM MITCHELL VERBELL, POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, DETAILS OF WHICH FOLLOW:

2. VERBELL IS A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WHO HAS BEEN IN OCCASIONAL CONTACT WITH THIS OFFICE, OF HIS OWN VOLITION, SINCE 1959. WHILE AN UNSAVORY CHARACTER, MUCH OF THE INFORMATION HE HAS FURNISHED HAS PROVED TRUE. HE FURNISHED COMPLETE DETAILS ON THE RECENT HAITIAN INVASION PLAN. THE PHONE CALL WAS RECEIVED BY BART SONZALES FROM HIM AT 1100 HOURS ON 13 FEBRUARY. HE STATED THAT HE HAD JUST HAD A TELEPHONE CALL FROM CHET GRAY OF LOS ANGELES, NO ADDRESS (PHONE 274-4922).
Time B-67-54

3. GRAY STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED REGARDING THE POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION IN THE U.S. OF A CLOSE RELATIVE, POSSIBLY A BROTHER OR SON, OF A MIDDLE-EAST RULER, WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS. HE DID NOT FURNISH THE NAME OF THE ALLEGED VICTIM, NOR BY WHOM HE WAS APPROACHED. GRAY TOLD VERBELL THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN AN INCIDENT THAT MIGHT CAUSE INTERNATIONAL

100 *17* *4* *B-67-54 (Chet Gray)*

4:19

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PAGE 2 CONTACTS/MIAMI 1712 ~~SECRET~~

REPERCUSSIONS AND ASKED VERBELL FOR ADVICE. VER

BELL ADVISED GRAY

TO INFORM THE FBI IN LOS ANGELES, BUT GRAY WAS RELUCTANT TO DO SO. VERBELL THEN ASKED GRAY IF HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK WITH A MEMBER OF CIA AND GRAY AGREED. VERBELL TOLD GRAY THAT IF A REPRESENTATIVE OF CIA CONTACTED HIM, VERBELL'S NAME WOULD BE USED AS ENTREE.

4. THE ABOVE SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF THE "ARABIAN NIGHTS," BUT I DID MEET A CHET GRAY FROM LOS ANGELES AT A LOCAL CONTACT'S HOUSE IN 1962, SOME DETAILS OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN COA(S) 9601 AND OOA(S) 9598 DATED 12 DEC 62. GRAY IS A NOTORIOUS HOODLUM AND MIGHT EASILY HAVE BEEN APPROACHED FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

5. PLEASE HANDLE THE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT.

~~SECRET~~

BT

F 12-79-00

PRIORITY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 2516 32 CITE CONTACTS/BIANT 1662

PRIORITY CONTACTS/ [] INFO PRIORITY JH-AVE DIRECTOR

ATTN: INT DIV (HELLER)

COUNTRY: HAITI

SUBJECT: MINI 10756 - PROPOSED INVASION CANCELLED

DOI : 25 NOV 66 AND EARLIER

ACQ : --25 NOV 66

REF : LA CIRE C-DC6-52891

C69 : MITCHELL L. WERRELL

A 127900

POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA

U.S. NATIONAL, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WITH WIDE EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA. HE IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH ROLANDO MASFERRER.

Nov 23 12 50 PM '66

(THIS REPORT WAS DEVELOPED BY A NAVY REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF PREPARATION.)

1. DURING THE NIGHT OF 25 NOV 66 A DECISION WAS REACHED TO CALL OFF THE PROPOSED INVASION OF HAITI BY THE GROUP SPONSORED BY ROLANDO (MASFERRER). THE INVASION IS OFF INDEFINITELY.

2. FATHER JEAN BAPTISTE (GEORGES) AND COLONEL RENE (LEON) HAVE BEEN ARGUING WITH MASFERRER WHICH HAS CAUSED CONFUSION AND DISORGANIZATION IN THE MOVEMENT. MANY CUBANS SCHEDULED TO PARTICIPATE HAVE PULLED OUT AND MILITARY CHIEF NAPOLEON (VILLADOISE) (SIC), A CUBAN NATIONAL AND ALLEGED MILITARY EXPERT, HAS RESIGNED BECAUSE OF DISSENSION IN THE GROUP.

3. IT IS BELIEVED THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAVE INFILTRATED THE MOVEMENT AND THE LEADERS FEAR THAT ALL WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT WOULD BE CONFISCATED IF PLANS FOR THE INVASION PROCEEDED.
END OF REPORT.

4.18

4. C/S: BARTOLO GONZALES. PLEASE PREPARE HARD COPY IN HEADQUARTERS.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

BT

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

1279-00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 222815Z CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1698

PRIORITY: CONTACTS [redacted]

ATTN: INT. DIV. (HELLEN)

11702M

COUNTRY: HAITI

SUBJECT: MIMI 10706 - FALSE REPORTS OF INVASION/REPORTED CHANGE

OF PLANS

DOI : 22 NOV 66

ACC : --22 NOV 66

CAS : MITCHELL L. VERBELL

A 127900

1507Z 4 22 NOV 66

POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA

U.S. NATIONAL, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WITH WIDE EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA. HE IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH ROLANDO MASFERRE

(THIS REPORT WAS DEVELOPED BY A NAVY REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF PREPARATION.)

1. AS OF 22 NOV 66 IN SPITE OF WIDESPREAD PRESS REPORTS, NO INVASION OF HAITI HAS TAKEN PLACE.
2. ROLANDO (MASFERRE) ROJAS WHO IS SPONSORING THE ALLEGED INVASION, HAS BEEN TELLING CUBAN EXILES THAT HIS GROUP HAS SECURED THE AIRPORT AT PORT-DE-PAIX AND THEY SHOULD BE PREPARED TO LEAVE AT ANY TIME.
3. MASFERRE HAS GIVEN UP THE IDEA OF MOVING HIS GROUP, WHICH CONSISTS OF APPROXIMATELY 300 CUBANS AND 100 HAITIANS, BY BOAT AND IS TRYING TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHARTERING ELEVEN AIRCRAFT,

4.17

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INCLUDING SOME DC-3'S. ONE OF THE DC-3'S WOULD CARRY COLONEL RENE
(LAKO), MASFERRER, AND FATHER JEAN BATISTE GEORGES.

4. THE M/V HUDSON IS TO BE USED TO CARRY PART OF THE WEAPONS.
THE MASFERRER GROUP IS WELL ARMED AND HAS PLENTY OF WEAPONS. THEY
HAVE THREE TONS OF C-3 DYNAMITE, AND ALSO HAVE SOME C-2 AND C-4.

5. THE HENRIETTA II WILL CARRY PHOTOGRAPHERS.

6. IN SPITE OF THE ABOVE I BELIEVE THAT THE "INVASION" IS A
FARCE AND IS FALLING APART. MASFERRER IS MERELY TRYING TO COVER UP
FOR THE FUNDS HE HAS RECEIVED FOR THE INVASION. IT IS BELIEVED
THAT MASFERRER'S LIFE WILL BE ^{IN} DANGER IF HE DOES NOT MAKE SOME
OSTENSIBLE EFFORT. END OF REPORT.

7. C/S: B. GONZALES. PLEASE PREPARE HARD COPY IN HEADQUARTERS.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BT

CC: SUBJECT LINE FIRST PORTION AFTER MINI NUMBR SHLD READ " FALSE
REPORTS OF INVASION/"; AND PARA 6 LINE

RT SHLD REA

READ "THAT MASFERRER'S LIFE WILL BE IN DANGER IF"

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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F-12-79-00

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~ 011530Z OCT 66 CONTACTS/MIAMI 1642

CONTACTS/ [REDACTED]

ATTN: INT DIV (ALYEA)

COUNTRY: HAITI/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC/BAHAMA

SUBJECT: MIMI 10855 - PLANNED INVASION OF HAITI BETWEEN
5-13 NOV 66

DOI : 28 OCT 66

ACQ : --1 NOV 66

REF : DCS CASE 41509 LA CIRE C-DC6-52651

C&S : MITCHELL L. VERBELL
POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA

A-127900

NOV 1 12 11 PM '66

U.S. NATIONAL WITH WIDE TRAVEL EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA. HE SPEAKS SOME SPANISH, AND HAS MANY SOCIAL AND BUSINESS CONTACTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

(THIS REPORT WAS DEVELOPED BY A NAVY REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF PREPARATION.)

1. ON 28 OCT 66 I SPOKE WITH ROLANDO (MASFERRER) ROJAS, A CUBAN EXILE, AND HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAS ORGANIZED A MILITARY FORCE OF APPROXIMATELY 250 MEN TO INVADE HAITI. THE INVASION FORCE CONSISTS OF CUBAN AND HAITIAN EXILES RESIDING IN THE U.S., THE BAHAMA, AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. THE INVASION WILL PROBABLY BE LAUNCHED FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SOMETIME BETWEEN 5 AND 13 NOVEMBER AND THE TARGET IS PORT-AU-PRINCE. THE INVASION FORCE WILL STRIKE IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING SELECTED. IT IS WELL ARMED, AND WILL HAVE AIR COVER; THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE WILL BE BOMBED.

4.16

2. MASFERRER STATED THAT EDMOND L. (MAXIMILIEN), HAITIAN CONSUL IN MIAMI, FLORIDA, IS AWARE OF THE INVASION, BUT HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE INVASION DATE. MAXIMILIEN IS PRESENTLY IN HAITI INFORMING PRESIDENT (DUVALIER) THAT THE INVASION CAN BE PREVENTED BY PAYING OFF \$200,000 TO MASFERRER. MAXIMILIEN WILL RETURN TO THE U.S. ON 5 NOVEMBER AND HE HAS AGREED WITH MASFERRER THAT IF DUVALIER AGREES TO THE PAY-OFF, MAXIMILIEN WILL RECEIVE

3. MASFERRER TOLD ME THAT THE INVASION WILL TAKE PLACE IN ANY EVENT AND THE \$150,000, IF RECEIVED, WOULD BE USED TO FURTHER SUPPORT THE INVASION.

4. MASFERRER STATED THAT HE MET WITHIN THE PAST 10 DAYS WITH SEVERAL DISSIDENT HAITIAN ARMY OFFICERS AND HE HAD RECEIVED THEIR SUPPORT. THE HAITIAN ARMY OFFICERS TOLD MASFERRER THAT THEY WOULD REVOLT AS SOON AS INFORMED THAT THE INVASION HAD COMMENCED. THEY DO NOT KNOW THAT THE TARGET WILL BE PORT-AU-PRINCE; THEY BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE IN THE CAP HAITIEN AREA.

5. MASFERRER STATED THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE INVASION WILL SUCCEED, AND IF SUCCESSFUL, FATHER JEAN BAPTISTE (GEORGES) WOULD BE APPOINTED PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT. MASFERRER STATED THAT COLONEL RENE (LEON), HAITIAN EXILE, WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE INVASION. END OF REPORT.

6. C/S: B. F. GONZALES: PREPARE HARD COPY IN HEADQUARTERS PLEASE.

~~SECRET~~

BT

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC
DOWNGRADING AND
DECLASSIFICATION

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[Signature]
[Signature]

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F-12-79-00

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downgrading and
declassification

[Handwritten signature]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ INFO 131420Z
NA CITE RIAM 1224
ATTN: INTERNATIONAL DIV (OSMAIT)
COUNTRY: GUATEMALA
SUBJECT: MIMI OBTINER AERIAL FORCE'S COUP D'ETAT PLANNED
DOI: 12 JAN 66
ACQ: ---12 JAN 66
REF: CIRL C-009-52374
CAS: MITCHELL L. WHEELER A-127900
POUNDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA

JAN 13 11 23 AM '66

U.S. NATIONAL WITH WIDE TRAVEL EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA. HE
SPEAKS SOME SPANISH, AND HAS MANY SOCIAL AND BUSINESS CONTACTS
IN LATIN AMERICA.
(THIS REPORT WAS DEV LOPED BY A NAVY REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO
THE OFFICE OF PREPARATION.)

1. ON 12 JAN 66 XIBENLIT (GOLDBERG) LADARSA, SON OF THE
FORMER PRESIDENT OF GUATEMALA ARRED

414

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FORCES WERE PLANNED TO OVERTHROW COLONEL ENRIQUE FERRELLA ON
15 JAN 66. YDIGORAS TOLD ME THAT IF THE COUP WAS NOT CARRIED OUT ON
15 JANUARY, IT WOULD BE EXECUTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEREAFTER.

2. YDIGORAS WOULD NOT TELL ME THE NAMES OF THE INDIVIDUALS
LEADING THE COUP, BUT STATED THAT "ALL OF THE ARMED FORCES WILL
BE INVOLVED." END OF REPORT.

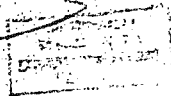
3. C/58 B. F. GONZALEZ. HAND COPY TO BE PREPARED
BY HEADQUARTERS.

4.14

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CEN 1283 COMANT GUATEMALA NIGI 12710 COUP D'ETAT 12 JAN 66 12 JAN 66
CIRL C DC 5 30374 MITCHELL L REMBELL POWDER SPRINGS GEORGIA U S LATIN
AMERICA SPANISH ARMY 12 JAN 66 RIGUELLID YDIGORAS LAPARRA
COLONEL ENRIQUE FERRELLA 15 JAN 66 COUP NOT CARRIED 15 JANUARY
NOT TELL C B B F GONZALEZ

BT

Approved
1-19-66
Chas E.



12-79-00

PP 215
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ZNY XXXXX
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ZERO ONE SIX WA

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

NOV 1 11 41 AM '55

~~TOP SECRET~~ REF ID: A61002
PRIORITY VA CITE TIME 1000
ATTN:
SUBJECT: HUNGARIAN RECONSTRUCTION MILITARY ON FIDEL CASINO
REF: AIN 617-89 OF 17 DEC 55

A 127900

1. MITCHELL WHEELER ADVISED BART GONZALES THAT A GROUP OF SIX MEN IN HIS ORGANIZATION WAS PENETRATED ODDA AND IS CURRENTLY IN THE VARDELLA/HAVANA AREA. THEIR MAIN PURPOSE IS ASSASSINATION OF FIDEL CASINO TO BE ATTEMPTED BETWEEN 5-8 JANUARY. IF FOUND NOT POSSIBLE, SECONDARY TARGET WILL BE TO CLOY OF THE ELECTRIC PLANT FURNISHING ELECTRICITY TO HAVANA.
2. THE GROUP IS TO USE AN AIRPLANE MODEL TYPE OF RADIO DETONATOR. THEY WERE UNABLE TO ETCH OR CONTROLLED FREQUENCY RADIO DETONATORS WHICH WERE PREFERRED BECAUSE OF HIGHER QUALITY. THE DETONATOR

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ALLEGEDLY WILL BE TAKEN AT THE END OF THEY WILL USE SUB-MACHINE GUNS IN THE COURSE OF A PUBLIC ASSAULT BY CASTRO. NO INDICATION AS TO HOW THEY KNOW WHEN OR WHERE HE WILL APPEAR. GROUP SAID TO KNOW MISSION IS SUICIDAL.

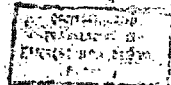
3. ATTEMPT ON THE ELECTRIC PLANT WILL BE TO KILL GUARDS AND PENETRATE AREA FOLLOWING WHICH THEY WILL BLOW UP KEY EQUIPMENT.

4. WENBELL SAID THAT REECE ALSO ALLEGEDLY HAS A GROUP IN CUBA AT PRESENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSASSINATING FIDEL CASTRO.

5. PLEASE HANDLE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT. FYI: WENBELL IS A NOTORIOUS CON MAN AND SCHEMER OF FORTUNE TYPE. HE IS CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CFM 1205 [REDACTED] FIDEL CASTRO 213 677 65 17 DEC 65 MITCHELL WENBELL
BART CONCEALS A CUBA MARSHING DAYANA 4 9 JANUARY NOT POSSIBLE
UNABLE TO A NO INDICATION WHEN FYI A CON CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE
BT

4.12



F-81615

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Contact Division
 ATTN : Index Branch
 FROM : Chief, Miami Field Office

DATE: 27 July 1959

A-81615

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Visit to Mitchell Warbell III
 2211 Genovis Terrace
 Coral Gables, Florida

1. In the evening of 24 July 1959 I received a telephone call from subject, who had been given my name and address by another agent of the Intelligence community in connection with the possibility of his passing along late information concerning the rumored impending flight of Batista to the US.
2. Warbell indicated that he spent a great amount of his time in the Dominican Republic and had extremely close association with leaders of the government, and also with General Jose Pezuela. He claimed to have been a former member of the OSS with service in China in WWII. Warbell is a soldier-of-fortune type who wears a monkey, drives a Mercedes-Benz, sports a most attractive blonde girl friend, and is a Big Spender. He also volunteered that he has a wife and six children living in Georgia.
3. Warbell told me that his principle source of income is in dealing with Cuban pesos, and said that he is associated in the business with a John Lipko of Los Angeles, a jazz musician who formerly played with the Jimmy Dorsey and Jan Garber bands.
4. Lipko also claimed to have been a member of OSS during WWII, serving in the Italian and Eastern European area. Lipko was heavily engaged in making long distance phone calls to Mexico City, Guatemala City, and Los Angeles during a part of the time I was with the group.
5. Warbell gave me some information on Batista's plans, which is basically speculation, and furnished some other marginal information which is being forwarded, although in my opinion little credence can be placed in anything he says. It is hard to evaluate what Warbell's motives are in connection with his desire to furnish information regarding Batista to us, but it appeared that he was also attempting to fish for information, throwing out a number of questions concerning the Wilshire Terrace Hotel, reportedly recently to have been purchased by Cuban interests with 9 million Cuban pesos. The penthouse reportedly has been completely redecorated, with heavy steel doors guarding the entrance. This penthouse suite has been rumored to be Batista's intended headquarters once he arrives in the US. All of this has been written about in the gossip column of the local papers.
6. Inasmuch as Warbell has my name and phone number, probably little can be done to prevent him getting in touch with me from time to time, but contact will not be initiated by me except by direction. The basic purpose of this memo is for the record.

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(When Filled in)

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY										FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY																									
A. FIELD OFFICE					B. REPORT NUMBER					C. HQ CODE					D. CASE NUMBER					E. MONTH					F. YEAR										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
X M I M I					1 0 7 5 6															1 1 2 3 6					1 9 1 1 2 6 6										
<p>F. SUBJECT AND AREA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Proposed Invasion Cancelled</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Haiti</p>																																			
<p>G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)</p> <p>Mitchell L. Werbell Powder Springs, Georgia</p>																				<p>INDIVIDUAL NO.</p> <p>D 13 1900</p>					<p>65. TYPE OF CASE</p> <p>1. CASUALTY MAPS 2. CASUALTY INFO 3. OTHER</p>					<p>66. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS</p>					
<p>H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)</p> <p>BAWG</p>																				<p>INDIVIDUAL NO.</p>					<p>67. TYPE OF SOURCE</p> <p>1. CASUALTY MAPS 2. CASUALTY INFO 3. OTHER</p>					<p>68. AREA</p>					
<p>I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)</p>																				<p>INDIVIDUAL NO.</p>					<p>69. TYPE OF SUB-SOURCE</p> <p>1. CASUALTY MAPS 2. CASUALTY INFO 3. OTHER</p>					<p>70. AREA</p>					
<p>J. METHOD OF COLLECTION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Interview <input type="checkbox"/> Trip Report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other Document <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)</p>										<p>EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ISD</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> USDP</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> FROM USDP</p>					<p>RESPONSIVE TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">✓</p>																				
<p>FIELD COMMENTS</p>																				<p>HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">P</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 1.5em;">4.10</p>															
<p>C/S</p>					<p>F.O. Chief</p>					<p>Case Officer</p>					<p>Person/Sec/Desk</p>																				

FORM 3-66 25

Obsolete previous editions

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3

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY Haiti

REPORT NO. OO-B-321/19112-66

SUBJECT Proposed Invasion Cancelled

DATE DISTR. 30 Nov 66

NO. PAGES 1

REFERENCES This report was previously disseminated as TD-00B-321/19112-66

DATE OF INFO. 23 Nov 66 and earlier

PLACE & DATE ACQ --- 23 Nov 66

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE: US national, soldier of fortune type with wide experience in Latin America. He is closely associated with Rolando Masferrer.

[This report was developed by a Navy representative assigned to the office of preparation.]

1. During the night of 22 Nov 66 a decision was reached to call off the proposed invasion of Haiti by the group sponsored by Rolando Masferrer. The invasion is off indefinitely.
2. Father Jean Baptiste Georges and Colonel Rene Leon have been arguing with Masferrer which has caused confusion and disorganization in the movement. Many Cubans scheduled to participate have pulled out and military chief Napoleon Villaboiss (sic), a Cuban national and alleged military expert, has resigned because of dissension in the group.
3. It is believed that US Government agencies have infiltrated the movement and the leaders fear that all weapons and equipment would be confiscated if plans for the invasion proceeded.

- end -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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S-YES

U-YES

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

INFORMATION REPORT APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994 INFORMATION REPORT

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

4.10

SECRET
(When Filled In)

12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY										FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY																									
A. FIELD OFFICE					B. REPORT NUMBER					C. NEO CODE					D. CASE NUMBER					E. RECEIVED*					F. U O										
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F. SUBJECT AND AREA
False Reports of Invasion/Reported Change of Plans
(Haiti)

1. FIRM SYSTEM RECORD			2. RELEASED				
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)
Mitchell L. Verball
Powder Springs, Georgia

INDIVIDUAL NO. **A-127900**

43. TYPE OF CONTACT
 GRAPHICS, MAPS, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REPORTS, OTHER

44. OFFICE OF DISSEMINATION

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)
Same as above

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

47. SUBJECT

48. 1. PUBLIC AFFAIRS
2. MAPS
3. REPORTS
4. OTHER

49. AREA

50. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.

I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

51. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.

52. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.

J. METHOD OF COLLECTION

Interview Trip Report

Other Document Other (specify below)

EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM

USSR ONLY EXCHANGES (CHECK OFFIES)

NO

TO USSR

FROM USSR

RESPONSIVE TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

DIA

FIELD COMMENTS

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

I don't believe you could have covered the "invasion" better if you had used an umbrella. An excellent job, I think.

Cat

rel

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C/S _____ F.O. Chief _____ Case Officer _____ Division/Staff/Desk _____

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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY	Haiti	REPORT NO.	OO- B-321/19067-66
SUBJECT	False Reports of Invasion/Reported Change of Plans	DATE DISTR.	28 Nov 66
		NO. PAGES	1
		REFERENCES	This report was previously disseminated as TD-00-B-321/19067-66
DATE OF INFO.	22 Nov 66		
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	--/22 Nov. 66		

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE: US national, soldier of fortune type with wide experience in Latin America. He is closely associated with Rolando Masferrer.

[This report was developed by a Navy representative assigned to the office of preparation.]

1. As of 22 Nov 66 in spite of widespread press reports, no invasion of Haiti has taken place.
2. Rolando Masferrer Rojas who is sponsoring the alleged invasion, has been telling Cuban exiles that his group has secured the airport at Port-de-Paix and they should be prepared to leave at any time.
3. Masferrer has given up the idea of moving his group, which consists of approximately 300 Cubans and 100 Haitians, by boat and is trying to make arrangements for chartering eleven aircraft, including some DC-3's. One of the DC-3's would carry Colonel Rene Leon, Masferrer, and Father Jean Batiste Georges.
4. The M/V Hudson is to be used to carry part of the weapons. The Masferrer group is well armed and has plenty of weapons. They have three tons of C-3 dynamite, and also have some C-2 and C-4.
5. The Henrietta II will carry photographers.
6. In spite of the above I believe that the "invasion" is a farce and is falling apart. Masferrer is merely trying to cover up for the funds he has received for the invasion. It is believed that Masferrer's life will be in danger if he does not make some ostensible effort.

- end -

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
S-YES

U-YES

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GROUP 1
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downgrading and
declassification

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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4.9

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12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

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A. FIELD OFFICE					B. REPORT NUMBER					C. WFO CODE					D. CASE NUMBER					E. RECEIVED					F. RELEASED										
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F. SUBJECT AREA/AREA
Request for Area

EXTRA-DISSEM. RECORD: 37 38 39

RELEASED: 40 41 42 43 44

04257

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)
Mitchell L. WEBBELL
Powder Springs
Georgia

INDIVIDUAL NO. 45

TYPE OOE: 2

ORGANIZATION NO. 47 48 49 50

SUBJECT: 51 52 53 54

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)
Same

INDIVIDUAL NO. 55 56 57 58 59

ORGANIZATION NO. 60 61 62 63 64

I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO. 65 66 67 68 69

ORGANIZATION NO. 70 71 72 73 74

J. METHOD OF COLLECTION

Interview Trip Report

Other Document Other (specify below)

EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM: TO TO USSR FROM USSR

RESPONSIVE TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

FIELD COMMENTS

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

JOIC ([redacted])

08 MAY 1967
4.8

CIA [redacted] F.O. [redacted] Case Officer [redacted] [redacted]

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CONTROLLED DISSEM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY Venezuela

REPORT NO. 00 B-324/11467-67

SUBJECT Request for Arms

DATE DISTR. 27 Apr 67

NO. PAGES 1

REFERENCES LA CIRC C-DC6-53134

DATE OF INFO Apr 67 and earlier

PLACE & DATE ACQ. ---/Apr 67 and earlier

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE US national, soldier of fortune type, with wide experience in Latin America.

1. In April 1967 I was approached by a prominent Venezuelan whom I prefer not to identify. He asked me to arrange procurement of 150-300 9 mm sub-machine guns, with 1-2000 rounds per gun. Delivery was to be "as soon as possible".
2. He did not identify the group for whom they were being obtained but indicated it was a "right wing operation".
3. I told him I was unable to be of assistance.

-end-

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08 MAY 1967

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

S YES

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(When Filled In)

12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS									
FOR FIELD USE ONLY					FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY				
A. FIELD OFFICE		B. REPORT NUMBER		C. REG. CODE		D. CASE NUMBER		E. RECEIVED	
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XMIHI		10086				11016		1707966	
F. SUBJECT AND AREA									
Planned Invasion of Haiti Between 9-13 Nov 66									
Haiti/Dominican Republic/Sabanas									
G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)					INDIVIDUAL ID		43. TYPE CODE		RELEASED
Mitchell L. Harbell Powder Springs, Georgia					A-127900		GRAPHIC MAPS PUBLICATIONS REPORTS OTHER		11036
H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)					ORGANIZATION ID		SUBJECT		AGA
SAME							27 28 29 30		31 32 33 34
I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)					INDIVIDUAL ID		ORGANIZATION ID		SUBJECT
							35 36 37 38		39 40 41 42
J. METHOD OF COLLECTION					EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM		USOR OR BY LOCAL AGENTS (CHECK ONE)		RESPONSIVE TO ONGOING REQUIREMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Interview <input type="checkbox"/> Other Document					<input type="checkbox"/> Trip Report <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)		<input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> TO USSR <input type="checkbox"/> FROM USSR		C/S
FIELD COMMENTS					HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS				
P id					Although these rumors of invasion have occurred before, this report was of interest to DCI, and I suspect others. One of these times will happen.				
C/S		Act. Chief		Case Officer		Division/Staff/Desk			
Monseles		J. Leitch		GALVA		98A Insitaur			

FORM 364 75

Obsolete previous editions

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

12-77-88

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

CONTROLLED DISSEM ~~SECRET~~ **NO DISSEM ABROAD**

COUNTRY	Haiti/Dominican Republic/ Bahamas	REPORT NO.	OO- B-321/17879-66
SUBJECT	Planned Invasion of Haiti between 5-13 Nov 66	DATE DISTR.	7 Nov 66
		NO. PAGES	1
		REFERENCES	This report was previously disseminated as TD-008-321/17879-66
DATE OF INFO.	28 Oct 66		
PLACE & DATE ACQ	---1 Nov 66		CIRL C-DC6-52851

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE: US national with wide travel experience in Latin America. He speaks some Spanish, and has many social and business contacts in the Dominican Republic.

[This report was developed by a Navy representative assigned to the office of preparation.]

1. On 28 Oct 66 I spoke with Rolando Masferrer Rojas, a Cuban exile, and he told me that he has organized a military force of approximately 250 men to invade Haiti. The invasion force consists of Cuban and Haitian exiles residing in the US, the Bahamas, and the Dominican Republic. The invasion will probably be launched from the Dominican Republic sometime between 5 and 13 November and the target is Port-au-Prince. The invasion force will strike in the early hours of the morning selected. It is well armed, and will have air cover; the presidential palace will be bombed.
2. Masferrer stated that Eugene L. Maximilien, Haitian Consul in Miami, Florida, is aware of the invasion, but he has no knowledge of the invasion date. Maximilien is presently in Haiti informing President Duvalier that the invasion can be prevented by paying off \$200,000 to Masferrer. Maximilien will return to the US on 3 November and he has agreed with Masferrer that if Duvalier agrees to the pay-off, Maximilien will receive \$50,000 and Masferrer \$150,000.
3. Masferrer told me that the invasion will take place in any event and the \$150,000, if received, would be used to further support the invasion.
4. Masferrer stated that he met within the past 10 days with several dissident Haitian army officers and he had received their support. The Haitian army officers told Masferrer that they would revolt as soon as informed that the invasion had commenced. They do not know that the target will be Port-au-Prince; they believe that it will be in the cap Haitien area.
5. Masferrer stated that he was confident that the invasion will succeed, and if successful, Father Jean Baptiste Georges would be appointed provisional president. Masferrer stated that Colonel Rene Leon, Haitian exile, will participate in the invasion.

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S-YES U-YES

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

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The dissemination of this document is controlled by the CIA and is not to be made available to the public without the express written permission of the CIA. This document is exempt from automatic declassification under Executive Order 11652. It shall not be disseminated to the public without the express written permission of the CIA.

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Filled In)

12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOM. C CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS											
FOR FIELD USE ONLY						FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY					
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X M I N I		09166				48267		10136		1661766	
SUBJECT AND AREA										RELEASED	
Report on the Dominican Republic (Dominican Republic)										10/76	
C. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)						INDIVIDUAL FILE		TYPE CODE		RECEIVED	
Mitchell L. Herbell Fowler Springs, Georgia						A-137900				3 30 36	
D. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)						ORGANIZATIONAL FILE		SUBJECT		AREA	
DOCUMENTARY											
E. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)						ORGANIZATIONAL FILE		SUBJECT		AREA	
F. METHOD OF COLLECTION						EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM		DATE WHEN EVALUATION REPORT DUE		RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S SIGNATURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Interview <input type="checkbox"/> Trip Report <input type="checkbox"/> Other Document <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify below)											
FIELD COMMENTS						HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS					
Source stated that he received a copy of the attached report from Rolando Castro Rojas, former Cuban Senator. Nefferrer told source that the report was written by Manuel "Patty" Carola, a Cuban exile. The report contains information on the political, military, Communist and economic situation in the Dominican Republic, as well as information on the elections held on 1 Jun 66.						[Handwritten notes and signatures]					
FOR RETENTION						APPROVED FOR RELEASE					
[Handwritten signature]						APPROVED FOR RELEASE 100% CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM					
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12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS																																												
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F. SUBJECT AND AREA Armed Forces Corp of East Pakistan															36					37					38					39					40									
G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address) S. K. ...															INDIVIDUAL NO. 1127900					45					TYPE CODE GRAPHIC, MAP, PHOTOGRAPH, RECORDS, OTHER					46					*FCI UNCLASSIFIED									
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L. FIELD COMMENTS															28 FEB 1955 Request for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 4.5																													
M. APPROVAL															N. OFFICER															O. DIVISION / STAFF / CLASS														

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

13-7200

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CONTROLLED DISSEM

NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY Guatemala
SUBJECT Armed Forces Coup d'Etat Planned

REPORT NO. OO-D-321/00782-66
DATE DISTR. 20 Jan 66
NO. PAGES 1
REFERENCES CIRL C-DC3-52374

DATE OF INFO. 12 Jan 66
PLACE & DATE ACQ ---/12 Jan 66

THIS IS UN-EVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE: US national with wide travel experience in Latin America. He speaks some Spanish, and has many social and business contacts in Latin America, but his reliability is not of the highest.

[This report was developed by a Navy representative assigned to the office of preparation.]

1. On 12 Jan 66 Miguelito Ydigoras Laparra, son of the former President of Guatemala, told me that Guatemalan Armed Forces were planning to overthrow Colonel Enrique Peralta on 15 Jan 66. Ydigoras told me that if the coup was not carried out on 15 January, it would be executed as soon as possible thereafter.
2. Ydigoras would not tell me the names of the individuals leading the coup, but stated that "all of the Armed Forces will be involved."

- end -

Lang. 547

**APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM**

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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS																																																					
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APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

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12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS																																									
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F. SUBJECT AND AREA 55 Photostats Taken in Georgia North and South Georgia (S. No.)																					36 EXTRA DISSEM RECORD		37 38 39 RELEASED		40 41 42 43 44																
G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address) New Power Springs, Georgia																					45 INDIVIDUAL NO. 127900		46 TYPE O.O.E.		47 GRAPHICS, MAPS, PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, OTHER		48 AREA														
H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)																					49 INDIVIDUAL NO.		50 SUBJECT		51 AREA																
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J. METHOD OF COLLECTION <input type="checkbox"/> Debriefing <input type="checkbox"/> Trip Report <input type="checkbox"/> Other Document <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify below)																					HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS																				
FIELD COMMENTS Source travelled to Georgia for purpose of investigation and intelligence gathering. Report to be filed.																					24 JAN 1966 Request for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 4.3																				

**APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM**

F-12-79-00

PRESENTATION FORM FOR GRAPHIC MATERIAL		DATE 13 December 1965
<small>(Submit to HQ-OCIC in triplicate with process sheet attached)</small>		
DIST: ORIG-GRAPHICS; DPL-CASE FILE; TRIPL-SOURCE FILE; QUAD-FO-RECORD		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GIFT <input type="checkbox"/> LOAN
AREA Camarioca, Cuba A-127900 Mitchell L. Harbell		
SUBJECT Photo prints taken in Camarioca Harbor and immediate vicinity		
NUMBER OF ITEMS AND CATEGORY: Still photographs, negatives, or slides: 36 B&W prints		
DATE OF EXPOSURE 1 to 7 Nov 65	CAMERA OR FOCAL LENGTH _____	
CHECK CLASSIFICATION OF PHOTOGRAPHS WHEN SEPARATED FROM THIS FORM. (The classification need not be the same.)		
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONFIDENTIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> SECRET
<input type="checkbox"/> UNCLASSIFIED		
BRIEF SOURCE DESCRIPTION US national with wide travel experience in the Caribbean Islands, especially in the Dominican Republic. He speaks some Spanish.		
IS SOURCE APT. TO MAKE ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIAL AVAILABLE? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
MAY SOURCE'S NAME BE REVEALED TO GRAPHICS REGISTER, OOR, IF REQUIRED? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL 36 Black and white phot prints (3 and 1/2 X 5) taken with a 35mm camera.		
IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS REQUIRED USE BLANK PAPER		
FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY		
DD-F NO. 22507-65	CASE NO. 1	DATE FORWARDED TO OR BY GHP
GA CONTROL NO.		
APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994		
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM		

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SECRET PROCESS SHEET FOR OO/C COLLECTIONS	FOR FIELD USE ONLY																					FOR HEADQUARTERS																																		
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P. SUBJECT AND AREA <p align="center">Impending Flight of Batista/Pedraza Expeditionary Force (CUBA/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC)</p>																					RECEIVED NO. DAY YR.			EXTRA DISSEM. RECORD NO. DAY YR.			RELEASED NO. DAY YR.			NOT DISSEMINATED NO. DAY YR.																										
Q. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address or 'Y' Number) Mitchell Warbell III 2211 Segovia Circle Coral Gables, Florida																					TYPE OO-E			GRAPHICS, MAPS, PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, OTHER			SUBJECT			AREA																										
R. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address or 'Y' Number) Same as above																					47 48 49 50 O E C O			51 52 53 54 I E E R			55 56 57 58 I F E P			59 60 61 62 I N E A																										
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1. APPROVED LIST OF CIA CONSULTANTS																		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1		<input type="checkbox"/> 2		<input type="checkbox"/> 3		<input type="checkbox"/> 1			<input type="checkbox"/> 2			<input type="checkbox"/> 3			<input type="checkbox"/> 4			<input type="checkbox"/> 5																				
2. APPROVED INTERNAL PROJECTS																		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2		<input type="checkbox"/> 3		<input type="checkbox"/> 4		<input type="checkbox"/> 1			<input type="checkbox"/> 2			<input type="checkbox"/> 3			<input type="checkbox"/> 4			<input type="checkbox"/> 5																				
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FIELD REMARKS																		EDITORIAL COMMENT																																						
SECRET FIELD OFFICE CASE STATUS THIS REPORT RESPONSIVE TO REQUIREMENTS FROM OFFICE OR AGENCY?																		97																																						
EXPECT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WITHIN (DAYS).																		11/1																																						
FINAL REPORT ON THIS CASE YES NO																		EDITOR																																						
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12-77-00

ATL-30-74
23 February 1974

Chief, Domestic Collection Division
Attch: Support Branch (OS/Grant)

Chief, [redacted] Field Office
Atlanta Resident Office

Resume of Contacts with Stephen Van Cleave

A-122014 A-127900

1. Jack Hennessy, [redacted] Field Office, called on 21 January 1974 to give us a source lead on Stephen Van Cleave and Mitch Berbell, both from Atlanta, Georgia. Jack briefed us on past Miami contacts with Van Cleave and suggested we might want to contact him concerning his activities in Argentina. At that time we were in the process of moving the office to the present location so did not contact Van Cleave until 25 January 1974. On that date we called, identified ourselves and briefly explained the reason for the call. His first reaction was, "Do you know Mitch Berbell and does this have anything to do with him?" We assured him we did not know Berbell, and our interest was not related to him. Van Cleave suggested we come to his office at 1:00 that afternoon.

2. We arrived shortly before 1:00 at his office in 174 W. Peachtree St. N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. Van Cleave had a new office in a modern building located in a moderate to high rent district of Atlanta. After presenting credentials and a business card we asked if we might take the interview. He could be persuaded to take us, as well as any future transactions, as he wanted to be absolutely sure any information he gave us was reported accurately. Enclosure No. 1 is a rough draft of the first interview. The actual tape has been erased. Some of this information was reported in OO-A(S)-222/03435-74, Secret, CIA Internal Use Only.

3. On 9 February 1974 we received a call from Van Cleave at home. He wanted to report in detail on a recent trip to Oakland, California, where he had supposedly met with police officials and discussed the Hearst kidnapping, the CIA, etc. We told him this was very interesting but not CIA business.

4. Van Cleave called again on 25 February 1974 to fill us in on a visit to the US by Argentine police officials and an operational opportunity in the Bahamas. We prepared this information for dissemination as OO-A(S)'s. In view of recent developments we assure neither report should be disseminated. To complete your record of contacts, both reports are enclosed as Enclosures No. 2 and 3 (disregard the Atlanta report numbers, they will be used for future reporting or cancelled).

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ATL-39-74
28 February 1974

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5. In the meantime the R. G. Murphy kidnapping came up to occupy his time until 26 February when he called to say he had some sensitive information of definite interest to CIA. When told he could not get into his office the following day due to a lack of transportation, he said he would come to our office. He reluctantly agreed. Late the morning of 27 February he came to our office and presented us with the information in Enclosure No. 4 (rough draft--the tape will be saved in case it is needed at a later date).

6. Not on the transcript, but of possible interest, before leaving our office he said he was afraid he might be fired by Coca Cola on 4 March 1974. Briefly, what apparently happened (and this in his story) was:

a. When it was learned Reg Murphy had been kidnapped, Chief John Inman of the Atlanta Police Department called Van Cleave requesting his assistance. He asked Van Cleave to come to headquarters and work with Assistant Chief Collins (we believe this is the correct name) on the Murphy kidnapping,

b. Van Cleave apparently expressed concern to the Assistant Chief that prominent members of Coca Cola Company residing in the Atlanta area might be targets for the same kidnapers,

c. The Assistant Chief agreed and went along with Van Cleave notifying, by phone, Coke officials,

d. Van Cleave had not cleared this action with his immediate supervisor at the Coca Cola Company,

e. Apparently the phone calls were made very late in the evening,

f. When the Murphy kidnapping was resolved, Van Cleave was called in by his boss to account for his actions. He apparently has not been able to justify the calls and this will be discussed at the meeting on 4 March. We suspect this may be his last official action for the Coca Cola Company.

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ATL-39-74
28 February 1974

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7. Since receiving the 27 February 1974 call from OSS, we have checked with Charles Wynne and Bob Perry of the FBI. Both are familiar with Van Cleave and his operations. Perry confirmed that Van Cleave had passed the information contained in Enclosure No. 4 to the FBI. Perry had a few other things to say about Van Cleave that probably do not need to be repeated in this memorandum.

8. Concerning the future, we intend to be hard to reach when Van Cleave calls; if necessary, talk to him on the phone a few times to see if he gets the idea; then if all fails simply tell him we have been told to stay out of this business.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Enclosure
(as stated)

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ATL-4-75
14 January 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

John R. Peterson
Atlanta Resident Office

Response to Call-in to Agency Headquarters/Initial Contact (Telephone)
with John Daniel Williamson, Carrollton, Georgia

1. On 7 January 1975 Albert S. Coleman of the Washington Field Office called us to pass on information that he had just been given by [redacted], DCA headquarters, regarding a call received by the Agency duty officer on New Year's Eve from one John Daniel Williamson of Carrollton, Georgia. Williamson identified himself as a Methodist minister and gave his address as Route #2, Box 3546, Carrollton, Georgia, Phone: (404) 854-0443.
2. In his call to Agency Headquarters, Williamson said that he had a friend who had information on the impending overthrow of a foreign government. The information regarded illegal shipment of arms from the US to the foreign country. Williamson said that his friend had wanted to try to sell the information to the foreign country concerned but that when the friend told Williamson about it Williamson prevailed on him to let him (Williamson) bring it to the attention of the proper government agency, resulting in his call to our headquarters on New Year's Eve. Williamson asked that someone from the Agency be put in contact with him.
3. On the afternoon of 7 January 1975, after verifying through the phone operator that Williamson was listed in the Carrollton area (he actually lives at Roopville, Georgia, on Erue Road, but the Roopville phones are handled under the Carrollton exchange), we called his number. We were informed by a young male voice, apparently his son, that Williamson was indeed a Methodist minister, but that he taught school every day during the week in the high school at Franklin, Georgia, except on Saturdays when he worked all day at a hardware store at Rockford, Georgia. We were told that he preached on Sunday mornings. We were not told what he does on Sunday afternoons. Since he was not to be at home until after 5 PM, we called him from our own home that same evening.
4. Williamson seemed to be expecting our call although we had not identified ourselves during the earlier call. He gave us essentially the same information furnished during his New Year's Eve call. He said that the friend about whom he called is a former parishioner and lives in the Carrollton area. He preferred not to provide us with the friend's name and address. The information, however—that which we were able to ascertain—sounded on the up-and-up, as far as Mr. Williamson's part in it was concerned, for he seemed to be a sincere and well intentioned individual. When we tried to at least learn the name of the foreign country involved, Williamson said that his friend would not give him that information.

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ATL-4-75
14 January 1975

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5. We did learn that the friend whom Williamson described as a business consultant, "a kind of a high-finance man involved in setting up corporations," who often travels abroad, had been approached by someone locally, i.e., in the Carrollton-West Atlanta area (Carrollton is about 40 miles west of Atlanta). The friend was said to be "a good friend, a reliable man, a college graduate, an established man in the community." According to Williamson, the friend was approached because of the nature of his work to perform some sort of task for the group, and he knew that something was wrong. The friend then learned all he could about the planned operation and eventually talked with Williamson about it. The friend told Williamson that the gun-running operation had been going on for about a year.

6. At one point Williamson said that his friend told him that "the people involved in this thing won't hesitate to kill him (the friend) and he knows that he's going to have to leave this part of the country when it comes to light." Williamson told us: "I feel like I've got this man's life in my hands and I don't want to do anything to jeopardize his life, because I know him and his family and all." Williamson suggested that we meet his friend at the Cape and Sword Hotel restaurant on I-20, near Six Flags Over Georgia, west of Atlanta, and he said that the two of them had already talked of this as a good meeting place. We told Williamson that we would be glad to meet with his friend but first we would like for his friend to give us a call so that we may talk with him. We gave our office phone number to Williamson. As of the writing of this memorandum, we have had no call.

7. From the information that Williamson provided, e.g., location of people involved, an attempt to meet with an Agency representative (to possibly get us involved merely by association), we believe that much of the substance of the matter could be the same as that which was reported from this office to OSS as related by Stephen Van Cleave regarding Mitch Werbell, et al. (See ATL-39-74, 26 February 1974, Resume of Contacts with Stephen Van Cleave; ATL-53-74, 9 April 1974, Stephen Van Cleave.) Mitch Werbell's operation, which has been described locally as a "machine-gun factory," is located at Powder Springs, Georgia, about ten miles north of the I-20 Cape and Sword Hotel. At any rate, Mr. Williamson's friend has been given the opportunity to contact us—and we are awaiting his call.

JOHN R. PETERSON

cc: Office of Chief, DCD
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Services

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ATTN: SUPPORT BRANCH/OSS (SRANT) A-182014

SUBJ: STEVEN VAN CLEAVE, INTELLIGENCE SERVICES, LTD., ATLANTA, GEORGIA

REF: GRANT/HENNESSEY TELECON, 28 FEBRUARY, SAME SUBJECT

1. DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 21 JANUARY 1974 WE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM ANSELMO ALLIEGRO, 3550 ROCKSWAY ROAD, MIAMI, FLORIDA, [] WHO ADVISED US THAT AN ACQUAINTANCE OF HIS IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA, STEVEN VAN CLEAVE, WANTED TO SPEAK WITH US IN CONNECTION WITH INTELLIGENCE MATTERS CONCERNING LATIN AMERICA. WE TOLD ALLIEGRO THAT VAN CLEAVE SHOULD CONTACT OUR OFFICE IN ATLANTA; HOWEVER, ALLIEGRO SAID THAT VAN CLEAVE DIDN'T WANT TO DEAL WITH "RECRUITERS", RATHER HE WANTED TO SPEAK WITH A CIA OFFICER "IN THE BUSINESS OF INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION". WE TOLD ALLIEGRO THAT OUR [] OFFICE WAS THE SAME STATURE AS THE [] FIELD OFFICE, AND THAT HE SHOULD URGE VAN CLEAVE TO CONTACT OUR REPRESENTATIVE IN []. ALLIEGRO WOULDN'T ACCEPT THIS RESPONSE ON OUR PART AND INSISTED THAT WE AT LEAST HEAR WHAT VAN CLEAVE HAD TO SAY. FINALLY, WE AGREED TO ACCEPT A CALL FROM VAN CLEAVE SO THAT WE COULD TELL HIM TO CONTACT OUR [] REPRESENTATIVE.

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PAGE 2 DCD [REDACTED] 12494 C O N F I D E N T I A L

2. VAN CLEAVE CALLED US AT HIS EXPENSE FROM ATLANTA ABOUT FIVE MINUTES LATER. WE ADVISED HIM AT THE OUTSET THAT HE SHOULD SPEAK WITH [REDACTED] IN THE [REDACTED] RESIDENT OFFICE AT HIS EARLIEST CONVENIENCE. WE EXPLAINED THAT OUR WORK FORCE IS DIVIDED [REDACTED] RATHER THAN [REDACTED] AND THAT SINCE HE LIVES IN ATLANTA, HE MUST DEAL WITH THE [REDACTED] WE PROVIDED HIM WITH THE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR THE [REDACTED] AND HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD CONTACT [REDACTED] THE SAME DAY. WE CALLED [REDACTED] TO ADVISE HIM OF VAN CLEAVE'S INTENTION TO CONTACT HIM. WE LATER LEARNED FROM BOTH [REDACTED] AND VAN CLEAVE THAT THE CONTACT WAS MADE.

3. WE PRESUMED THAT WE WOULD HAVE NO FURTHER CONTACT WITH VAN CLEAVE. HOWEVER, WE WERE MISTAKEN. VAN CLEAVE PLACED AT LEAST TWO MORE TELEPHONE CALLS TO US FROM ATLANTA (AT HIS EXPENSE), AND ONE FROM DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA. EACH TIME WE ADVISED HIM TO CALL [REDACTED] RATHER THAN US. HIS RESPONSE ON THESE OCCASIONS WAS THAT HE ALREADY HAD OR INTENDED TO KEEP [REDACTED] ADVISED BUT THAT HE WANTED TO KEEP US INFORMED ALSO. THE LOCAL [REDACTED] CALL WAS MADE TO ADVISE US THAT VAN CLEAVE WAS IN MIAMI IN THE COMPANY OF TWO ARGENTINE POLICE OFFICIALS, WHOM WE COULD DEBRIEF IF WE SO DESIRED. WE AGAIN TOLD HIM THAT HE COULD REPORT TO [REDACTED].

PAGE 3 DCD [] 12494 C O N F I D E N T I A L

1. VAN CLEAVE TOLD US DURING ONE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED CONVERSATIONS THAT HE IS ACQUAINTED WITH MITCHELL VERBELL, POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, AND THAT HE HAD BEEN "PRESSURED" INTO TAKING VERBELL TO ARGENTINA WITH HIM IN LATE JANUARY 1974 BY OFFICIALS IN THE COCA COLA COMPANY, CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, WITH WHICH VAN CLEAVE HAD (OR HAD) A CONSULTING CONTRACT IN CONNECTION WITH COCA COLA'S SECURITY SYSTEM IN ARGENTINA. VAN CLEAVE ADVISED US THAT HE NEVER AGAIN WOULD HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH VERBELL BECAUSE THE LATTER HAD ACTED SO BADLY DURING THIS TRIP. HE TOLD US THAT VERBELL HAD COMMENTED TO ARGENTINE OFFICIALS THAT HE (VERBELL) WAS SOMEHOW CONNECTED WITH THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, AND ON A FIRST NAME BASIS WITH "BILL" COLBY, DCI. VAN CLEAVE TOLD US THAT MATTERS HAD DEGENERATED TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT HE RETURNED TO THE US WITHOUT VERBELL. (OUR MEMORY IS A BIT FUZZY ON THE CONTENTS OF THIS DISCUSSION, BUT WE RECALL SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT THAT VERBELL WAS INVOLVED WITH GINE, WOMEN, AND SONG, AND VAN CLEAVE WAS AFRAID THAT VERBELL MIGHT BE ARRESTED BY ARGENTINE POLICE BEFORE IT WAS OVER.) VAN CLEAVE TOLD US THAT HE PERSONALLY NEVER HAD SO MUCH AS IMPLIED A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AGENCY TO ANY OUTSIDER.

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PAGE 4 DCD/ [] 12494 C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT MET VAN CLEAVE IN PERSON, BASED UPON OUR TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM HE APPEARED TO BE AN INTELLIGENT AND REASONABLE MAN. WE ARE SORRY THAT WE CANNOT PROVIDE A MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH VAN CLEAVE, BUT AS WE MENTIONED IN REFERENCED TELECON WE DID NOT MAKE NOTES DURING THE CONVERSATIONS NOR DID WE FEEL IT NECESSARY AT THE TIME TO WRITE A MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD SINCE WE BELIEVED THAT IT WAS A NORMAL, ALBEIT COMPLEX, REFERRAL TO ANOTHER DCD OFFICE. E 2 IMPDET CL BY 212652
C O N F I D E N T I A L

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E-12-79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, CG

22 May 1969

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WHEEL, Mitchell L. -- Local OSI Inquiry to DCI Miami Office for
Information Concerning
82733

mem-054-69

1. The enclosed copy of memorandum from our Miami Office, regarding the OSI representative's inquiry for information concerning Subject, is forwarded for your records and possible future reference.

2. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to [redacted] Ext. 2733.

SECURITY [redacted]

Enclosure: As stated above

VThorne:grw

[Handwritten signature]

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23 May 1969

ATT : Chief, Miami Field Office
Mr. E. Hogan
Director, Domestic Contact Service (Services Division)

REF : MICH-004-69
MIRCHIL, Mitchell L.

Thank you for the information reported in the referent. The suggestion made by your office that OSI direct its request through official security channels is entirely correct. In the future, however, it will be helpful and appreciated if you will forward correspondence pertaining to security matters directly to the Security Liaison Officer, rather than to Support Staff. This saves time in getting the information to the appropriate channel for any action that may be indicated.

SECURITY

JAMES R. ROYER

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(Handwritten initials and marks)

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Director, Domestic Contact Service
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15 May 1969

Chief, Miami Field Office

MI-M-004-69

Local OSI Inquiry Regarding Information on Mitchell L. Werbell

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1. On 15 May 1969, Special Agent Dave Ploumen, local OSI representative, USAF, visited the Miami Field Office to solicit any information we might have regarding Mitchell L. Werbell who apparently is undergoing a security clearance check as the result of presently being employed by a company with a government contract.
2. Werbell was an unsolicited contact of this office beginning in 1959 and he reached peak notoriety in November 1967 as a result of his involvement in the Rolando Masferres trial in connection with the abortive Haitian invasion. John Greaney, OCS was in Miami at the time to oversee Agency interests.
3. Ploumen in contacting other US Government agencies locally including the US Attorney's Office somehow received an indication that CIA had information on Werbell; thus Ploumen's visit to the Miami Field Office.
4. It was indicated to Ploumen, who is known personally by several members of this staff, that we know of Werbell and that on occasion he had reported unsolicited information. It was suggested, however, that Ploumen direct his request officially through channels via OSI's agency liaison officer in Washington.
5. This is for background and is being forwarded at the suggestion of local CIA Security.

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