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TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

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CCL, AUTHOR, THE WAR WITHIN, REVIEW

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Director, FBI (65-66266)
FROM : Legat, London (65-1053)
SUBJECT: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 12, 1961

114223

Enclosed herein is one copy of the book, "The War Within" by OMER CLARKE. This is the second book to appear on the English market which purports to relate the events and circumstances of the LONSDALE, et al case (first book, "Spy Trial" sent to Bureau 5-29-61)

"The War Within" like its predecessor "Spy Trial" and newspaper articles of the trial is 190 pages of misstatements, erroneous conclusions, fantasy, and the end result of the author's overactive imagination with in many instances no regard or relation to the facts.

The author has run the gauntlet of past espionage cases from RICHARD SORGE through FUCHS, ROSENBERGS, ABEL, etc., and as a result thereof the FBI is frequently mentioned. Outside of references to the FBI in a sometimes misleading manner indicative of the author's unfamiliarity with our responsibilities and the facts, the only apparently critical reference is on page 106. This reference relates to the COHENS and ABEL and the statement is made that in this case it was the "American FBI which had slipped up - and badly."

There is no new or startling information in the book as pertains to LONSDALE, et al, nor is there any information which should be checked out or followed with our sources.

The foregoing is for the information of the Bureau and this office will obtain and review any subsequent books which deal with this matter.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE
5 - Bureau (Enc.)
1 - London (65-1053)
JTM:MAH
(6)

EX-116

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JFK

~~ESP.~~

Memorandum
ENCLOSURE
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED
20/6

50 JUL 17 1961

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. SULLIVAN *W.S.*

FROM : W. A. BRANIGAN *W.A.B.*

SUBJECT: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE
ESPIONAGE - R
65-66266

MORRIS COHEN;
LONA COHEN
ESPIONAGE - R
100-406659

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Sullivan
DATE: 6/30/61

1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lee

SECRET

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

10/21/97
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(JFK) #211326
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Declassify on: OADR 5/5/85
(SP8 mde/jac)
2/15/85-JFK

SYNOPSIS:

This memorandum reviews a book entitled "The War Within" written by Comer Clarke, British author, and deals with the Lonsdale and Cohen cases. Bufiles negative on Clarke.

By letter 6/12/61 Legat, London, furnished a copy of "The War Within." A review of the book reveals it is full of inaccuracies, erroneous assumptions, and conclusions and other items which are outright lies. He mentions the FBI in one place in a derogatory fashion. The author claims we had seen Morris and Lona Cohen meeting with Colonel Rudolf Abel and had investigated Abel but Abel's cover was so good we decided he had no espionage connections. As a result of this, the author states "... FBI had slipped up -- and badly." This statement is pure fabrication and has absolutely no basis in fact. It is an obvious attempt to shift the blame to the FBI for the fact that the Cohens operated in England for over six years without being detected.

This book appears to be thrown together hastily in an effort to profit from a timely book. It apparently relies heavily on British newspaper accounts which were very inaccurate and proved distrustful under an active analysis. REC-95 65-66266-250

ACTION:

For your information. A detailed review of the errors in the book is attached.

JPL:ct
(6)

ct 3/8 *V.* *W.S.* *De* *Car* *W.A.B.* *JFK* *SP6*

XEROX
207
JUL 13 1961

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DATE 10/21/97 BY SP6BJA/KJ

100-406659-

DATE: 11-14-2017

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Memorandum Branigan to Sullivan
Re: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE
65-66266

MORRIS COHEN;
- LONA COHEN
100-406659

This is not correct. Fuchs' name and British address were in Halperin's notebook.

page 51 The author claims that Fuchs came to the United States in 1946 and asked fellow scientists about the duties of a communist scientist which was reported to the FBI. Then the FBI watched Fuchs and reported to MI-5 that Fuchs had been seen meeting Soviet agents.

(S) This is a complete fabrication. We identified Fuchs from Bureau Source information, told the British, who interrogated Fuchs, and he confessed. (S)

page 52 The author claims the FBI followed the Cohens after the arrest of the Rosenbergs. The author claims the FBI found out that the Cohens were friends of the Rosenbergs.

This is false.

page 53 The author states Lona Cohen was co-director of "Save the Rosenbergs" campaign.

This is false.

pages 54-55 The author tells of Lonsdale's training in Winnitsa which is allegedly the town in Russia which is set up like an American town.

We have received reports of the existence of this town, however, it has never been proven.

page 55 The claim is made that an FBI source in the United States stated Lonsdale was trained in this town.

This is a lie.

page 61 Contains a fanciful description of Lonsdale meeting the Cohens in Tokyo in 1954 on their way to Canada.

This has no basis in fact.

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page 144 The author claims MI-5 identified the Krogers as the Cohens before the arrest by comparing photographs of Krogers and the Cohens and that the FBI confirmed this fact.

This is completely false. [It was only after the arrest when the fingerprints of the Krogers were compared with the fingerprints of the Cohens which we had furnished to the British earlier that an identification was made.] (S)

page 149 The author states that a locket found in the shop of Cohens contained a microdot which was a newspaper article concerning the Abel case.

Again this is wrong. A locket was found, however, it contained photographs and no microdots.

Bufiles negative on Clarke.

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