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AIRTEL TO SACs, SA, CG, MM
RE: JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA, IRWIN S. WEINER
63-7985

SECRET

with which he dealt concerning BSEC insurance, should be obtained. Taurig should be thoroughly questioned concerning his associations and dealings with the Dorfman, Weiner, Hoffa, Stewart Hopps, and the various insurance firms mentioned in rerep. Copies of all available pertinent documents in his possession should be obtained and a listing made of all payments made by or received by him. Appropriate inquiries should be made to determine if any kickbacks or rebates were made by him or requested.

(2) Contact should be made with the Florida-Caribbean Underwriters of Miami, along the same lines as set forth above.

(3) Through appropriate established contacts in Nassau, Bahamas, contact should be made with John Kearney and Intercontinental Insurance and Surety Company along the same lines as previously mentioned.

For the information of all offices [a confidential source abroad has advised that Intercontinental Insurance and Surety Company (IISC) was incorporated in Panama and operates in the Bahamas as a branch of a foreign company with "non-resident" status for exchange control purposes. According to the source, IISC engages in underwriting all classes of insurance internationally (reinsurance). One J. Kearney was identified as a local manager.] (S)

This source learned that IISC is doing a good legitimate business and funds injected for insurance purposes are presumed to be union funds from the Southern States, placed through a man named Hopps, who is known to be a "placer" for union funds, generally, and for Teamsters money in particular. The source further learned that IISC, through its resident subsidiary, Intercontinental Life and General Insurance Company, Limited, (ILGICL) will be doing business in the Bahamas in connection with health, welfare, group pension and casualty policies. (S)

This source received information to the effect that officers of ILGICL include H. M. Taylor and Preston Albury and other union leaders in the Bahamas. It was reported that Hopps is a close associate of Hoffa's and reportedly is placing union funds through this latter company. (S)

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According to Bureau files the Hopps mentioned above may be identical with Stewart B. Hopps, a millionaire manipulator of insurance companies. This Hopps was indicted 7/13/60 by a Federal grand jury, Baltimore, Maryland in two counts, charging use of the mail to defraud in connection with mailing false financial statements of the International Guarantee and Insurance Company of Tangiers, Morocco, to Maryland State Insurance Commissioner and the Baltimore Better Business Bureau in February, 1958.

According to information received from a confidential source abroad, on 1/15/62, John Michael Kearney was Secretary-Treasurer of the Intercontinental Insurance and Surety Company in the Bahamas. According to this source, he was born 3/20/95 at La Plato, Maryland, and had an address Vallinta #21, Mexico, D.F. (S)

During the course of the investigation outlined herein it is important to establish the use of the mail and/or wires, as well as the interstate transportation of funds in excess of \$5,000. In addition, it is of prime importance to ascertain if there was any fraud involved in handling of the insurance transactions with BSEC. Based on information provided by Sanches, it appears probable that Dorfman, Traurig and/or others may have diverted certain insurance premiums rather than applying these funds to the purposes for which intended. The above items are not to be construed as all-inclusive and any other points deemed logical should be completely resolved. This matter is to be afforded prompt and continuous investigative attention by all offices.

NOTE: Bureau files contain no pertinent information concerning Florida-Caribbean Underwriters of Miami, American and Overseas Underwriters, or Leonard Traurig, other than contained in captioned case. Information set forth herein concerning John Michael Kearney and Intercontinental Insurance and Surety Company was obtained from Bureau file 63-7312, which was furnished the Bureau by Stott, British Intelligence by memoranda dated 12/15/61 and 1/15/62. Information set forth herein concerning Stewart B. Hopps was obtained from Bureau files 63-4296-47-31 and 62-71236.

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