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9 AUG 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM : Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

SUBJECT: Robert Maheu

1. On 4 August 1976 Mr. James P. O'Connell, formerly Deputy Director of Security for Physical, Technical and Overseas Security, now retired, called to inform me that he had been contacted by Robert Maheu concerning a book which Maheu is writing.

2. Mr. O'Connell indicated that Mr. Maheu wanted to discuss the book with him, together with Mr. Maheu's ghost writer, one Joseph Frank. Mr. O'Connell stated that he agreed to meet with Maheu but wanted me to know that he would not provide Maheu with any information of a classified nature.

3. On 5 August 1976 Mr. O'Connell called Mrs. [redacted] to advise that he had decided against meeting with Maheu. Mr. O'Connell stated that he told Maheu that he just simply did not want to get involved.

4. On 8 August 1976 Mr. O'Connell called me at my home to advise that he had been contacted by a reporter from The Washington Post in response to the news story concerning the death of Johnny Roselli. The Post reporter wanted to interview Mr. O'Connell to obtain the "general background and color details concerning Johnny Roselli." Mr. O'Connell advised that he told The Washington Post reporter he had nothing of interest to provide him.

5. Mr. O'Connell elaborated further concerning Mr. Maheu's book, stating that Maheu was now in London where Mr. O'Connell speculates he will publish the book. Mr. O'Connell believes that the book will be concerned primarily with Maheu's relationship with Howard Hughes and that Maheu's connections

with CIA will be of minor importance. Mr. O'Connell volunteered to contact Maheu and request galley proofs in order to review the book prior to publication to determine if he, Mr. O'Connell, is portrayed in an accurate manner and if information sensitive to CIA is included in the book. I explained to Mr. O'Connell that whatever action he wanted to take was a private matter but that CIA was of course interested in protecting classified information and information concerning sources and methods. I thanked Mr. O'Connell for the above information and he advised that he would contact me further should he obtain additional information concerning Maheu's book.


Robert W. Gambino

Distribution:

- Original - Maheu File
- 1 - James P. O'Connell File

REFERENCE

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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1999