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15 October 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CI/OA

SUBJECT : Viola June COBB, C-83492

Reference: Request for Information and Review,
9 October 1962

1. As requested in the reference, attached hereto is a copy of the technical interrogation of Viola June COBB. (Please return this file to WH/3/Mexico for Subject's 201).

2. Staff D collateral information, routed through CI/OA on 9 October 1962, provided no derogatory information that is not included in Miss COBB'S 201 file: expulsion from Guatemala in November 1961 after proof was obtained by the Government of Guatemala "that she was a Castro agent whose mission in Guatemala was to distribute pro-Castro and Communist propaganda among university students"; translator of a book written by former Guatemalan President Juan Jose AREVALO, "The Fable of the Shark and the Sardines," which assails government and business in the United States.

3. Below is a summary of information from Subject's 201 pertinent to the reference, with attachments which are to be returned to WH/3/Mexico for inclusion in Subject's 201. Since Mexico City Station has consistently provided information concerning Subject and her relation to Station operations and agents, no further field traces will be requested unless requested by your office.

a. Viola June COBB, born in Ponca

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City, Oklahoma, on 24 August 1927, left home for Mexico City in 1947-48 after her father remarried. She has since lived in Ecuador, Cuba, and Mexico, and has been involved with the men and politics of a number of Latin Countries. During these years she has developed a host of friends and acquaintances, both U.S. and Latin, that includes political leaders, journalists, diplomats, and men and women from a number of professions, some of which do not enjoy general social acceptance. Her taste in friends is omnivorous and she embraces (sometimes literally) and has access to extremists from both right and left political groups and has variously been accepted and distrusted by both pro- and anti-U.S. interest groups. (See List of Associates, para. 3,d,1, below). First contacted by a KUBARK Staff Employee in Habana in 1960 when she was employed by the government of Fidel Castro, she reported on Cuban personnel and activities until she left Cuba and for some time afterward. She was picked up by Mexico Station in December 1961 when she had lost her access to Cuban targets and has been reporting on the activities and thinking of various Latin pro-Communist revolutionaries including LINLUCK, a Communist Party

[REDACTED]

b. She has intentionally or unintentionally indicated her employment with the U.S. Government to a number of intimates and acquaintances. Persons suspecting her association with U.S. intelligence include the following: Horacio GODOY, Argentine law professor;

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Bayless MANNING, Yale University law professor;
Michael Sidney COLIN, U.S. citizen who was associated with William L. Morgan in Habana;
Rosalbo ROCA, close friend in New York who is a citizen of the Dominican Republic;
and Diane ALEXANDRIA, also a friend in New York City on resident visa.

c. In March 1962 she was called before the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security and questioned on Cuban associations and activities. To our knowledge, she did not divulge any contact with KUBARK. As a result of this hearing, she was contacted by Drew Pearson's assistant, Jack Anderson, and the interview resulted in an article in Parade, the Washington Post, 12 August 1962.

d. Attached to this memorandum are the following documents from Subject's 201 (to be returned to WH/3/Mexico):

1. List of Associates of Viola June COBB. (1960)
2. Memorandum to WH/3/Mexico, from WH/4/CI (on Subject)
3. Memorandum for the Record (2 April 1962). Contact report with Subject concerning Senate Subcommittee hearing.
4. Article on Subject from Parade: "Meet June Cobb."


Chief, WH/3

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