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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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OPERATIONAL - ROBERT MAHEU

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SUBJECTS:

MAHEU, ROBERT

CIA

FOREIGN LEADERS

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SECRET-

PROPERTY OF THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE :

Chief, WHD

13 October 1957 DATE _

Chief of Station, Ciudad Trujillion

SUBJECT

Operational

Robert M. MAHEU

REF: \$7700 272, 9 October 1957

ACTION REQUIRED: As indicated.

Transmitted herewith, for information and for such action as may be deemed appropriate, are copies of the two documents described in the reference.

Chief of Station

Attachments:

2 - as indicated (each in dupl.)

10 October 1957

Distribution:

3 - Headquarters w/2 atts. in dupl.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1993 CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

01462

In June of 1956, a foreign leader paid a state visit to the United States. At that time, the leader was hesitating between the U.S. and the Soviet Union and was playing the part of a so-called neutral which, in effect, indicated that he favoured the Soviet position. The United States at this time, was going all out to impress the leader.

The foreign leader's Embassy in Washington is represented by a lawyer , who, incidentally, had much to do with the writing of the registration (Foreign Agents Registration Act).

And American type and a Mordic type woman available when he felt so inclined. State told the lawyer that they could not have anything to do with the obtaining of these women officially, but suggested Robert A. Maheu, a former F.B.I. agent then engaged in the private investigation business in Washington. Maheu was a close friend of Scott McLeod, chief of State security and now American Ambassador to Ireland. It is believed that the lawyer contacted McLeod although I have no definite proof of this.

Maheu agreed to obtain the women for the foreign leader. He contacted Inspector dobb of the New York P. D. and wanted dobb to arrange for him and the girls to stay to the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, in rooms not too distant from the leader and his party. Robb refused to involve the police in this affair.

Maheu and the prostitutes subsequently stayed at the Belmont Plaza Hotel on Lexington Ave., across from the Waldorf Astoria PROPERTY OF

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

Att. 1 to HDGA-1136 13 October 1957 Page 2.

where the leader and his party were staying. Maheu used the name of Jordan at the Belmont Plaza. When he received a call from one of

's secretaries, he would send one of the girls over to the hotel where was living and she would be secretly passed into one of the rooms.

The foreign leader's party travelled across the U.S., stopping at different cities such as Detroit, Los Angeles, San Francisco, etc., and Maheu, alias Jordan followed, staying close by with the girls. Maheu used the name Jordan.

Maheu was hired by the foreign leader's Embassy in Washington through the lawyer. Maheu did not register as a foreign agent and secondly, in transferring females across the State line, he violated the White Slave Traffic Act Statute which forbids transferring women across State lines for immoral purposes. He undoubtedly violated this statute numerous times, from New York to California and back.

Recently, Drew Pearson has accused the State Department of furnishing women for visiting dignatories, and this is a touchy issue. This whole thing was done with the tacit approval of the State Department.

01464

htt. 2 to HDGA 10367 13 October 1957

In September 1955, a wire tap was placed on the telephone of one of Onassis' shipping companies, in New York City. Payment for this was made by Onassis' brother-in-law and rival Niharos. At that time great concern existed among official circles in the United States toward the policy of Saudi Arabia in its contemplating giving to Onassis a monopoly right to carry a majority of the Saudi Arabian Oil from the latter's ports. Niharos, of course, was interested in breaking this threatened monopoly by his greatest competitor for reasons of business.

Robert M. Maheu, former FBI agent and then and now a private investigator, was hired by Niharos to help break this Cnassis threat. One of the measures used was to get the United States to put pressure on Saudi Arabia officially and another was to cause Onassis all the difficulty possible with the American law. Maheu made numerous trips to Europe and into Saudi Arabia. Indications were that Onassis had bought off several Saudi Arabia governmental officials.

CIA, according to Maheu, was interested as were McLeod of State and the FBI. Maheu allegedly turned over his investigative reports to these agencies.

The wire tap in New York therefore was an investigative technique. Maheu always said it was quasi governmental in view of the fact that the U.S. government knew of the tap and gave tacit approval.

The information obtained was not startling but names of certain high governmental officials in the Saudi Arabian government W 53244 DocId: 32202160 Page 6

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were mentioned. All information obtained was delivered to a man nicknamed Amby who was manager of Niharos' company Oceanic S.S. Co. in the East fifties between Park and Madison Avenues in New York City.

When the Grand Jury was investigating the foreign registration case they went into this wire tapping situation closely and in fact contacted some of Maheu's employees. Maheu, I understand, went to someone in the government and pointed out the situation vis a vis the U.S. and Saudi Arabia and it was decided not to proceed further in this matter. It is understood that Maheu spoke to Walter Yagely of the Justice Department in reference to this and he rushed to the Grand Jury Room and told the Grand Jury to forget this.

01466

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