

OGC 69-0249

10 February 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: (Thomas Lee Roberts)

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1. After meeting with Mr. Warner, Mr. [redacted] and others from the (LP)GLOBE staff, I telephoned Mr. Leonard Newman, Chief of the Rackets Section, New York County District Attorney's office, on Thursday, 6 February, and stated that I wanted to discuss a matter not directly related to the Itkin case. I felt it was necessary to explain to Mr. Newman that it was not the Itkin case since we have been enjoined by the U.S. Attorney's office from discussing the Itkin case with members of Mr. Hogan's office. Mr. Newman's immediate question was, "Does this involve (Roberts)?" I said it did and would look forward to meeting with him at 10:30 on Friday provided the weather permitted an on-time arrival in New York.

2. At 10:30 on Friday, 7 February, I met with Mr. Newman and Sergeant William Graf, a police investigator assigned to the District Attorney's office to work on the Itkin case. It appears that Sergeant Graf, in the course of his investigation of Itkin's activities, came up with the information that (Roberts) was working for CIA. When Sergeant Graf first talked to Mr. Newman about this possibility, Mr. Newman thought he was jumping to conclusions with insufficient evidence. However, Sergeant Graf continued his investigation and more and more evidence pointed to (Roberts') CIA relationship. I specifically asked Sergeant Graf if Itkin was aware of (Roberts') affiliation with CIA, and Sergeant Graf replied that from the evidence he had seen of the Itkin-(Roberts') relationship it was his opinion that Itkin does know of (Roberts') affiliation with CIA. Mr. Newman commented that if Itkin knew of (Roberts') affiliation with CIA, we could be sure that this would be brought out by Mr. F. Lee Bailey during the trial of Itkin.

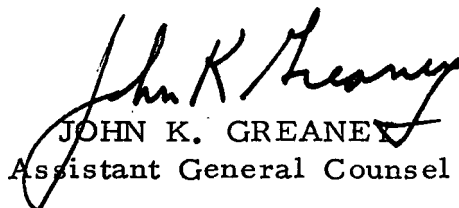
3. At the present time the⁰³ New York District Attorney is not contemplating prosecution of (Roberts) as the information uncovered to date relates to⁰³ (Roberts) contacts with Itkin and apparently there are no specific criminal charges against⁰³ (Roberts). Sergeant Graf stated that (Roberts) had corresponded with Itkin, and it was assumed that Itkin⁰³ and (Roberts) have met personally when (Roberts) has been in this country. ⁰³

⁰³ 4. Mr. Newman stated that they had sent questions to (Dakar) for (Roberts) via Interpol which have been answered. Mr. Newman stated that the FBI had advised him that the FBI had previously had an interest in (Roberts).⁰³ Mr. Newman did not state whether the FBI had advised him of CIA's interest in (Roberts).⁰³ Mr. Newman asked me whether we would be willing to question (Roberts) on other items that they had uncovered. I stated that this posed a⁰³ real problem and I was not able to give them an answer at that time. I was concerned about certain conflicts in the event (Roberts)⁰³ answers involved information which could incriminate him. It might be that (Roberts)⁰³ would consider he had immunity from prosecution when answering questions put forth by CIA.

5. I did not describe (Roberts)⁰³ relationship to CIA other than to state he had in fact received some training from us and did report to us. I intended to infer that (Roberts) was an informant in a similar capacity to that which Itkin⁰³ enjoyed earlier.

6. It should be noted that all parties to the Itkin case are talking to each other. Mr. Newman said two days before I called on the phone the FBI advised him that CIA would discuss our relationship with (Roberts)⁰³ with him. Later that day in Mr. Morgenthau's office, where I met Itkin, FBI Agent Donovan commented that he heard I had a good meeting with Newman. It is not beyond belief that the FBI told Itkin that I had seen Newman about (Roberts).⁰³

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JOHN K. GREANEY
Assistant General Counsel

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cc: CCS (LPGLOBE)
C/CI/R&A

18/7/71