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DOR-00780

MEMORANDUM FOR: ⁰³ (Doris F. LeBaron)
Acting Chief, FPL Group

ATTENTION: Katherine Stricker (C)
FPL Group

FROM: ⁰³ (Donald R. Cryer)
Acting Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: PCS/PGLO Trace Request - Gordon Noval
and Owen Silvius

REFERENCE: FPLG Memorandum dated 27 January 1983

1. In response to referenced request, an intensive search of the files and indices of the Directorate of Operations was conducted on Gordon Noval and Owen Silvius, two individuals who reportedly are involved in offshore banking and who claim CIA connections. Following are the results. (C)

2. Gordon Noval:

A. OG/EIB/NRS surfaced the following:

(1) 201-0834822 on Gordon Dwane Novel, born circa 1938 in the United States. Novel is a self-described electronics bugging expert. He is involved in New Orleans District Attorney James Garrison's probe of President Kennedy's assassination, and in a libel suit against Playboy and Jim Garrison based on an article published in the October 1967 edition authored by Jim Garrison. Novel has reportedly stated that his activities in and around New Orleans in the early 1960's were on behalf of the CIA and, specifically, the raid on a munitions bunker in Houma, Louisiana, had been carried out on behalf of CIA. However, Novel refused to answer written interrogatories concerning his alleged work with CIA. As a result, attorneys representing Playboy requested the Agency furnish a certificate of non-employment. On 2 May 1969, CIA's Director of Personnel signed a notarized certificate which stated

2/pj

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that, "Gordon Dwane Novel, at his request on 22 December 1967, was interviewed as an applicant for employment by a member of the Office of Personnel, Central Intelligence Agency....Based on the information supplied at such interview, the interviewer did not recommend employment and his application for employment was not further processed by the Central Intelligence Agency. The personnel records of the Central Intelligence Agency contain no record of employment of Gordon Dwane Novel by the Central Intelligence Agency."

(2) XAN-00209 dated 24 August 1981 on Gordon Novel, the Subject of a litigation file.

(3) FBI document, DBB-80563 dated 9 May 1967, Subject: Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Dallas, Texas, November 22, 1963. Novel, a fugitive witness of Jim Garrison's, called the FBI in New Orleans and advised them to expect a call from Garrison.

B. OG/EIB/NRS and DCD surfaced one file (A185210) on Gordon Michael Dwane Novel. Novel initially contacted the DCD/New Orleans Resident Office (NORO) on 31 October 1975 concerning an operational proposal for CIA's consideration. NORO had a number of meetings with Novel to discuss his proposal, which was eventually rejected. Novel refused to accept the decision and threatened to approach the DCI directly, offering additional supporting material and attempting to arrange to visit Headquarters so that he could defend his proposal in person. Novel's last call to NORO was 26 November 1979 and he was again advised that NORO had nothing to discuss with him. (S)

3. Owen Silvius:

OG/EIB/NRS surfaced one document (DIRECTOR 471493 dated 24 October 1973) on Owen Franklin Silvius. Silvius, a businessman, was born 15 January 1939 in Luray, Virginia. He is married to Nancy Ann nee Goochenur, born 27 December 1942 in Luray. Their permanent address is P.O. Box 62, Luray. Silvius was issued a passport on 27 May 1971 for one month's travel to Europe and the Middle East. No information was surfaced which would indicate any CIA connection with Silvius. (S)

4. No identifiable information was surfaced with regard to offshore banking by either Novel or Silvius. Per a 28 January 1983 telephone conversation with Katherine Stricker, FPLG, she is checking with IAD/ENO for possible information on offshore banking. (S)

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5. According to information provided this Directorate by DDA/IPD, Gordon Noval was the Subject of Freedom of Information request F81-0889 and Privacy Act requests P76-0768, P77-2537 and P81-1233. There is no indication that Owen Silvius has ever been the Subject of an FOIA/PA request. (S)

6. Katherine Stricker, FPLG, was notified telephonically of the results of this search on 28 January 1983. (C)

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Donald R. Cryer
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OG/EIB: (E.McKnew)/(K.Sheffield)/X9461 CL BY 0236112 (4 January 1983)

BASED ON: A review of DO records
FILE IN: 100-139- (X-ref 201-834822)

Distribution:

Original - Addressee w/ref
1 - 100-139- w/ref
1 - OG/DMB (201-834822) w/ref
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