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7 October 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

ATTENTION:

Mr. Sam J. Papich

SUBJECT:

COURT FOSTER WOOD

INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

Reference is made to a 25 March 1961 and a 6 July 1961 investigative report on captioned Subject which have previously been furnished to this Agency.

Michael Weimer Stratton, born 21 January 1941, Austin, Texas, who is a current Agency employee, has recently been interviewed concerning his knowledge of Court Foster Wood whom [Stratton] had 3 known since mutual attendance in high school. Attached is a detailed report of the information furnished by Stratton concerning his knowledge of Wood.

Since [Stratton] personally has sufficient reason to question the activities of Wood and the activities of the associates of Wood, [Stratton] has been advised to discontinue any further contact with Wood. 3

It would be appreciated if your Bureau would furnish this Agency any additional information brought to your attention concerning Court Foster Wood and of particular interest would be any information received by your Bureau concerning past association of Court Foster Wood with Michael Weimer Stratton.

The above information is for your use only and should not be disseminated outside your Bureau.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

R. L. Bannerman Acting Director of Security

Attachment: As noted

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SUBJECT: Court Foster Wood

Michael Weimer Stratton has recently advised that Court Foster Wood was a relatively close high school friend of Stratton during mutual attendance at George Mason High School, Falls Church, Virginia, during 1957 to 1959. [Stratton] described Wood as an average high school student who had no particular problems with the exception that there were domestic difficulties between the father and mother of Wood.

Stratton became acquainted with the parents of Wood and made occasional visits to their home during the above period of time. The father of Wood, Foster Wood, is an attorney who was then living in Falls Church. Some time ago the father and mother of Court Wood split up and Court Wood and father moved into an apartment on Columbia Road, Washington, D.C.

Stratton advised that after graduation from high school in June 1959 he lost any close contact with Wood who then started to attend George Mason College, where he seemed to have an interest in philosophy. Stratton started to attend a military school and Wood expressed extreme opposition to military schools.

Stratton married in 1960, which also helped to move Stratton somewhat out of the social circle of Wood. 3 Stratton believed that for approximately a year, during 1959 to 1960, he did not actually see Wood but advised that after this period in which he did not see Wood he has had a number of contacts with Wood, many of which occurred during mutual attendance at the University of Virginia Extension School (night school) in early 1961. On one occasion Stratton attended a party at the apartment occupied by Wood and father at the invitation of Wood, and on this occasion came into contact with the "new set of friends" of Court Wood, whom Stratton described as being "beatnik types." Girls in attendance at the party, according to Stratton, appeared to be of the "street pickup" type.

After the above party Wood occasionally telephoned Stratton and about Christmas 1960 Wood called and stated that he was going to Cuba under the auspices of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

Stratton called on Wood after the return of Wood from Cuba and at that time Wood lauded Castro very highly. The father of Wood was also present and Stratton obtained the impression that the father was also in sympathy with Castro. I Stratton recalled that he again, at a later date, had visited the Wood apartment, this being an occasion when Wood had been visiting somewhere in Falls Church and contacted Stratton to ask Stratton to take Wood home. On this

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