

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION
REVISION OF INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT

CMB 2-24-94

May 10, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. BELMONT
MR. EVANS
MR. SULLIVAN
MR. DE LOACH
MR. MALONE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-3-94 BY 9803 RDD/KSL
(JFK)

Yesterday the Attorney General came to my office and conferred for over an hour about various matters.

He first discussed the Latin American Academy which is in process of being set up in Panama and expressed concern about this operation in that it had been rather slow in starting and there did not seem to be a firm hand guiding it. He stated that the President was vitally interested in this project and he, the Attorney General, likewise felt that great good could be done if it was properly directed. I told the Attorney General that I thought there was merit in setting up such an academy provided it was properly organized and operated and that what seemed to me to be a weakness existing at the present time was the failure to have any one person solely responsible in making the decisions. I cited to the Attorney General the fact that there had been employed by AID, Joseph D. Lohman, now attached to the School of Criminology at the University of California, who was going to proceed to Panama accompanied by Herbert O. Gardin of AID and Major Jacinto Hidalgo of the Puerto Rican National Police. I stated that Major Hidalgo was a graduate of our National Academy and an excellent man. I stated I knew nothing about Herbert Gardin. I stated that insofar as Joseph D. Lohman was concerned, there could not have been a worse selection. I stated that a representative of CIA who had been participating in conferences with Inspector H. L. Edwards of this Bureau and Inspector Kennelly of AID had likewise indicated Lohman's undesirability. I told the Attorney General that Lohman had been described as a "Machins" type of Socialist. I advised the Attorney General that while Lohman was employed at American University, the President of that University later said that Lohman was completely unscrupulous, unreliable, dishonest, and untrustworthy. I stated he had been Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, from 1954 to 1955 and Treasurer of the State of Illinois from 1955 to 1961, when he left to go with the University of California. I observed that Cook County, as the Attorney

NARA 174 10271 10030

107-116295-317

[REDACTED]

May 10, 1962

Memorandum for Messrs. Tolson, Belmont, Evans, Sullivan, DeLoach, Malone

General knew, has been notorious for crime and corruption during that time. I also cited the fact that Lohman had been associated with persons who were communist and of strong leftist tendencies. I stated that obviously Mr. Kennelly, who had been in charge of the training work in AID did not know that Lohman was going to be appointed, but commitments had been made by someone else. I told the Attorney General I thought a great mistake was being made by not having all persons participating in this project at Panama name checked at least by the FBI, but this had not and was not being done. The Attorney General stated that he knew of Lohman as he was the only one who had opposed President Kennedy's nomination at either the Vice Presidential run which President Kennedy made or at the last convention when he was nominated for President.

I think Inspector Edwards should thoroughly brief Mr. Kennelly about the background of Lohman and our strong feeling concerning him. Mr. Edwards should not, of course, mention the observation made by the Attorney General about Lohman having opposed President Kennedy's nomination.

I told the Attorney General that insofar as the Bureau was concerned, we were doing everything that we could within our limitations and capacity to assist in the Panama school, that Mr. Edwards had been conferring with AID relative to the setting up of a curriculum, and that we had originally selected SAC John N. Speakes of our San Juan, Puerto Rico, Office to be the lecturer before the first class of the Panama school. I told the Attorney General, however, that Mr. Speakes apparently upon learning of this assignment had decided to retire and I was not surprised he had taken this action because Mr. Speakes was thoroughly conversant with the many problems and headaches one has in dealing with the State Department. I stated that we had now designated SAC Joseph J. Santoliana, Jr., of our Tampa Office, who had been Agent in Charge of a number of our field divisions, speaks Spanish fluently, has been a teacher of Spanish in our foreign language schools, and is thoroughly conversant with various law enforcement problems. I stated I believed that Mr. Santoliana should keep the Bureau advised weekly of the progress of this school in Panama when it is opened so that I might be able to advise the Attorney General as to just how it is getting along.

[REDACTED]

May 10, 1962

Memorandum for Messrs. Tolson, Belmont, Evans, Sullivan, DeLoach, Malone

I then advised the Attorney General that apparently AID was exploring the possibility of setting up an International Police Academy at Washington, D. C., to which would be brought law enforcement representatives of the underprivileged nations. I stated that the plan as now being considered was to have this operated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) which had a contract with AID to carry on certain limited police training of foreign law enforcement officials. I observed to the Attorney General that I thought it was all right for the study to be made, but I believed that AID should first "get on the road" with satisfactory operation of the Latin American Academy in Panama. I also observed that I had some doubts as to the desirability of the training work being let out by contract to any private organization. I told the Attorney General I had heard rumors to the effect that the IACP planned to do some training of the domestic police in this country although this was rather nebulous at the present time. I stated that this would obviously be improper and undesirable because such training as is given to local authorities in this country should be handled by the FBI through its National Academy and through such local and regional command schools as the Bureau was already carrying out.

I think in this respect we should immediately contact our Legal Attaches in the various parts of the world and have them promptly submit to us information concerning the training programs being carried on by the local law enforcement officers in their areas. This should cover two aspects, one being any training that is being given by a particular country to law enforcement officials from other countries. Mr. Van Noy informed me that West Germany was giving certain instructions to law enforcement officials from other parts of the world who would come to Germany for such instructions. There is no doubt the same is being done probably by the British and maybe some other countries, and we should have complete information on such projects. Two, we should obtain from our Legal Attaches available information as to what training is given to the domestic law enforcement officers of a country through any national organization of the country. This would enable us then to see exactly how widespread the training may be and the scope of such programs in individual areas. I have already asked Mr. Tolson to have a study made here to determine the advantages

[REDACTED]

May 10, 1962

Memorandum for Messrs. Tolson, Belmont, Evans, Sullivan, DeLoach, Malone

and disadvantages of entering into international training of police officers such as had been carried on by contract from the AID through the IACP and such as is being proposed for the expansion of such a program through the IACP. This should be given top priority for I think it is very important that we make a decision promptly as to whether we should enter this field because if we do not, it will be very difficult later should we change our mind to then take over the police training which basically should be handled by the Government and not by private groups or organizations.

The Attorney General inquired of me as to what I thought of Mr. Edwyn Silberling in charge of the Organized Crime and Racketeering section of the Criminal Division. I asked the Attorney General whether he wanted me to give him a frank appraisal of Mr. Silberling and he said of course he did. I told him I thought Silberling was the greatest liability he had at the present time in carrying forth the Attorney General's program in the field of organized crime. I stated that our relationship with Silberling had not been satisfactory in that his word could not be taken as truth in some situations and in my estimation he talked too much to the press on his trips out of Washington and that I did not believe he knew exactly how to approach the handling of the organized crime problem at the prosecutive level. The Attorney General stated that he had originally selected Silberling because of his success in some criminal cases that he had in New York State. I told the Attorney General that I remembered that quite well and that he would recall that those cases had been reversed by the superior courts in New York State which took occasion to castigate Silberling for the manner in which he had handled the cases originally. The Attorney General indicated that Assistant Attorney General Miller was not satisfied with Silberling and that he, the Attorney General, believed he would have to make a change.

The Attorney General asked me what I thought about the other attorneys in the Organized Crime and Racketeering section and I informed him I personally had not had any contact with any of them directly but I thought Assistant Director Evans had and I would ask Mr. Evans to be prepared to discuss this matter with the Attorney General as to such evaluations as Mr. Evans could give as to the capabilities of the other attorneys in that section.

May 10, 1962

Memorandum for Messrs. Tolson, Belmont, Evans, Sullivan, DeLoach, Malone

The Attorney General inquired of me as to what I thought about the progress which had been made against organized crime and whether I believed substantial progress had been made. I told the Attorney General I thought quite substantial progress had been made, first through the enactment of legislation which he had initiated in Congress and secondly, in the convictions which had already been obtained, citing the case of Muckey Cohen, Kid Cann, and others who have been successfully prosecuted during the last year. I told the Attorney General, however, that I believed the public was not as cognizant of the accomplishments as they should be. I stated that individual cases as they were successfully concluded had received publicity but there had not been an over-all roundup of the accomplishments in this program by someone outside of the Department in the form of a magazine article. I stated that, of course, it would be undesirable for anyone in the Department to write such an article or make such a speech because it would at once be charged that it was self-serving, but there certainly could be no objection to some good objective writer giving a roundup of the accomplishments to date. I cited particularly the great accomplishments made under the amended Federal fugitive law and that these accomplishments together with others that had been obtained should certainly be pinpointed for the public's information. The Attorney General looked with favor upon this suggestion.

I told the Attorney General that insofar as the progress in the organized crime program was concerned, I felt there were some definitely weak spots in the field in that area. I stated I did not think there had been sufficient use of grand juries and I cited the case of John F. Sprang, who some time ago was called before the grand jury in New York City and perjured himself extensively. I pointed out that Sprang had been a close contact of the top hoodlum element and all this was denied when he appeared before the grand jury. I stated that, however, after such appearance it no doubt preyed upon his mind that he had been guilty of perjury with the result that a week or ten days ago he came into our San Francisco Office and made a full and complete statement of the facts as he knew them and about which he had lied when he was before the grand jury. I said this showed the psychological value of taking some of these individuals before grand juries.

██████████

May 10, 1962

Memorandum for Messrs. Tolson, Belmont, Evans, Sullivan, DeLoach, Malone

I also mentioned to the Attorney General the condition in Chicago which I considered to be most unhealthy in that the United States Attorney's Office, headed by Mr. O'Brien, was not functioning as it should and there seemed to be too much attention to personal publicity upon the part of the United States Attorney's Office at Chicago and too little attention to getting results and letting the publicity then take care of itself. I also called to his attention the lack of action in Jacksonville, Florida; in Miami, Florida; and in Tampa, Florida, and he agreed that there had certainly been inactivity from the prosecutive point of view in that general area and that he intended to again look into it.

I outlined to the Attorney General the progress which we have made in the Murray Humphreys' case and this would probably go to a grand jury as soon as certain interviews were concluded by the Internal Revenue Service at Miami of Humphreys and his present wife. I also advised him of the raid made in Cook County, Illinois, a few days ago of one of the leading gambling joints owned by Gus Alex and run by one of his principal lieutenants. I told him this raid was made by the Sheriff's Office because of no federal angle being involved but the fact that a principal lieutenant of Alex's was arrested as well as others was indicative of the pressure we were bringing to bear on Alex.

I told the Attorney General we also were bearing down on Giancana. The Attorney General told me he wanted to advise me of a situation in the Giancana case which had considerably disturbed him. He stated a few days ago he had been advised by CIA that in connection with Giancana, CIA had hired Robert A. Maheu, a private detective in Washington, D. C., to approach Giancana with a proposition of paying \$150,000 to hire some gunmen to go into Cuba to kill Castro. I expressed astonishment at this in view of the bad reputation of Maheu and the horrible judgment in using a man of Giancana's background for such a project. The Attorney General shared the same views. The Attorney General stated that in connection with the "bugging" which had been developed by us in Las Vegas of Phyllis McGuire's residence where Giancana and she were living, CIA admitted that they had assisted Maheu in making this installation and for these reasons CIA was in a position where it could not afford to have any action taken against Giancana or Maheu. The Attorney General informed me

[REDACTED]

May 10, 1962

Memorandum for Messrs. Tolson, Belmont, Evans, Sullivan, DeLoach, Malone

he had asked CIA whether they had ever cleared their actions in hiring Maheu and Giancana with the Department of Justice before they did so and he was advised by CIA they had not cleared these matters with the Department of Justice. He stated he then issued orders to CIA to never again in the future take such steps without first checking with the Department of Justice.

I told the Attorney General that this was a most unfortunate development. I stated as he well knew the "gutter gossip" was that the reason nothing had been done against Giancana was because of Giancana's close friendship with Frank Sinatra, who, in turn, claimed to be quite close to the Kennedy family. The Attorney General stated he realized this and it was for that reason that he was quite concerned when he received this information from CIA about Giancana and Maheu. The Attorney General stated that he felt notwithstanding the obstacle now in the path of prosecution of Giancana, we should still keep after him. He stated of course it would be very difficult to initiate any prosecution against him because Giancana could immediately bring out the fact that the United States Government had approached him to arrange for the assassination of Castro. He stated the same was true concerning any action we might take against Maheu for any violation of law he might become involved in.

The above concerning Maheu and Giancana is, of course, to be treated as highly confidential.

Very truly yours,

J. E. H.

John Edgar Hoover
Director