STAT
Approved For Release 2007/06/21 : CIA-RDP99-00498R000100040039-8

CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

Date. April 15
Item No. 1976
Ref. [redacted]

NEWS SERVICE

pxt

ZZZA080

D A CZCRYRCZC

TPM-SINATRA, 370

BOSTON (AP) - ENTERTAINER FRANK SINATRA OFFERED TO HELP THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY IN A DIRECT PROPOSAL TO CIA DIRECTOR GEORGE BUSH TWO MONTHS AGO, SAYS THE BOSTON GLOBE.

THE NEWSPAPER SAID THE OFFER WAS MADE AT A GATHERING IN THE NEW YORK APARTMENT OF BUSH'S BROTHER, JONATHAN, HEAD OF A BROKERAGE FIRM.

THE GLOBE QUOTED JONATHAN BUSH AS SAYING SINATRA SPOKE FREELY OF HIS LOVE FOR HIS FAMILY AND THE UNITED STATES, AND MADE A ''VERY SINCERE AND GENEROUS OFFER'' TO HELP THE CIA IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.

THE STORY SAID SINATRA DID A LOT OF WORLD TRAVELING, MET A NUMBER OF NOTABLES INCLUDING THE SHAH OF IRAN AND PRINCE PHILIP OF ENGLAND AND THOUGHT HE MIGHT BE USEFUL TO THE CIA.

THE GLOBE QUOTED JONATHAN BUSH AS SAYING HIS BROTHER MADE NO COMMITMENT TO SINATRA.

PRESENT AT THE GATHERING WITH THE BUSH BROTHERS AND SINATRA WERE TELEVISION PRODUCER PAUL W. KEYES, JONATHAN'S WIFE AND A FRIEND, SOME NEIGHBORS IN THE APARTMENT BUILDING AND TWO CIA EMPLOYES, INCLUDING GEORGE BUSH'S SECRETARY.

THE GLOBE QUOTED KEYES AS SAYING SINATRA MAY HAVE OFFERED TO HELP THE CIA, BUT MADE NO PITCH TO GO TO WORK FOR BUSH. KEYES SAID, ''TO MY KNOWLEDGE IT WAS JUST OLD TIMES AND EXCHANGES OF PLEASANTRIES FOR ABOUT 45 MINUTES TO AN HOUR.

''FRANK HAD JUST COME BACK FROM A EUROPEAN TOUR AND HE TALKED A LOT ABOUT IT.''

THE NEWSPAPER SAID AT ONE POINT GEORGE BUSH DREW A LAUGH FROM THE GROUP BY SAYING TO SINATRA, ''THERE IS SOME SPECIAL WORK YOU COULD DO FOR US IN AUSTRALIA,'' AN APPARENT REFERENCE TO THE PUBLICIZED TROUBLES SINATRA HAD WITH CRITICS ON AN AUSTRALIAN SINGING TOUR SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

SINATRA WAS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY AND HAD ENLISTED SUPPORT FROM OTHER ENTERTAINMENT PEOPLE FOR KENNEDY.

THE HEAD OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED CRIME SECTION DURING THE KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION, EDWYN SILBERLING, SAID WEDNESDAY HE HAD PROPOSED A BROAD TAX PROBE OF SINATRA, BUT IT WUS APPARENTLY TURNED DOWN BY THE THEN ATTORNEY GENERAL, ROBERT F. KENNEDY. SILBERLING IS NOW PRACTICING LAW IN NEW YORK.

SINATRA AND THE BUSH BROTHERS COULD NOT BE REACHED IMMEDIATELY FOR COMMENT ON THE GLOBE STORY.

0921AES 04-15

Approved For Release 2007/06/21 : CIA-RDP99-00498R000100040039-8