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OGC Has Reviewed

5 June 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

STATINTL

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

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1. A man named [REDACTED] whose real name is [REDACTED] was with OSS and later with State. He has written a manuscript on black operations, specifying several instances which involved CIA. Some of these he states are true of his own knowledge. Others he relates as stories that he acquired somehow - some talk of operations, some talk of expenditure of funds, both in a highly critical and somewhat vicious manner.

2. It seems inevitable that a majority of the information must have been acquired in the course of his official Government employment and must have come largely from classified documents or what might be called "classified gossip." [REDACTED] is now with a Middle East oil company, stationed in the field, and the manuscript is being peddled by another oil company employee in New York. It would seem appropriate to inform the head of the oil company that we believe the employee here should be put on notice that the information in the manuscript is presumed to be classified due to its nature and probable origin and that, therefore, his attempts to peddle the manuscript or to reveal it publicly may be in violation of the espionage acts.

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3. As the information in the manuscript is presumed classified until a contrary determination is made by proper official action, the books should be turned over to the Government for safekeeping in accordance with the rules for protection of classified information. I think we should proceed

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on the assumption that certainly the writer and possibly the New York employee will pursue the attempts to publish the manuscript even if they turn it in for our safekeeping. If they wish to cause the maximum difficulty for the Government they could raise a storm about suppression of derogatory information on the false basis of classification and thereby get some free publicity against the time when the manuscript might be released to them on a declassified basis. Whether a publishing house would publish such a document without such a release is problematic, and if such a release were given it would only leave them to claim that the facts stated were confirmed by the Government. However, I still believe action should be taken to put the New York employee on notice.

LRH

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

OGC:LRH:jeb
cc: OGC chrono, *no one*
subject-Security 3

*also coordinate
with FBI, etc.*