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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ROBERT F. KENNEDY

PART 1 OF 9

77-51387 Vol. 1

ROBERT F. KENNEDY

Department of Justice

00582

Department of Justice

Washington

SEP 12 1951

Deputy

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

9/12/51
296

Please obtain a report relative to the character, reputation and qualifications of the individual named below who is under consideration for appointment to the position indicated below with the Department of Justice:

NAME IN FULL Robert Francis Kennedy
(Female applicants - Maiden Name)

POSITION UNDER CONSIDERATION Attorney - Criminal Division

LEGAL RESIDENCE Mass. (122 Bowdoin Street, Boston, Mass.)

DATE OF BIRTH Nov. 20, 1925 PLACE OF BIRTH Boston, Mass.

IF NOT BORN IN THE UNITED STATES AND NOT NATURALIZED, DATE AND PORT OF ENTRY OF APPLICANT INTO THE UNITED STATES

IF NATURALIZED, DATE AND PLACE OF NATURALIZATION Mass.

MARITAL STATUS Married

EDUCATION: a. High school or equivalent Milton Academy, Milton, Mass.

b. College or technical Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., Sept. 1946 to Feb. 1948, B.A. degree
Bates College, Lewiston, Maine, Nov. 1944 to June 1945
Virginia Law School, Charlottesville, Va., Sept. 1948 to June 1951, LL.B.
c. Miscellaneous

Names of clubs, societies and similar organizations of which applicant is a member

ASCERTAIN IF ADMITTED TO BAR

Date of admission to the bar _____ Name of state in which admitted _____

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE: Name and Address of Employer _____ Position _____ Period of Employment _____

Unemployed Present time

United States Navy (248-77-27) USNR March 1944 to June 1946

Arrests or law suits in which applicant has been involved None

List names of any relatives in the government service with degree of relationship and where employed

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 122 Bowdoin St., Boston, Mass., Brother, Federal Govt.

Congressman

REFERENCES: (Preferably five)

NAME _____ RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____ BUSINESS ADDRESS _____

John J. Ford, 260 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

Bartholomew A. Brickley, 1 Federal Street, Boston, Mass.

Hon. William T. McCarthy, Federal Dist. Court, Federal Bldg., Boston, Mass.

330

SEP 12 1951

Attorney General
Deputy

ew

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

9-14-51

Transmit the following message to:

SAC

BOSTON
RICHMOND
NEW YORK
WASHINGTON FIELD

DEFERRED

COVES. ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY, ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL DIVISION.
ADDRESS: ONE TWO TWO BOWDOIN STREET, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS. BORN
NOVEMBER TWENTY, NINETEEN TWENTY FIVE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.
VERIFY. EDUCATION: HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MASS., SEPTEN-
BER, FORTY SIX TO FEBRUARY, FORTY EIGHT, RECEIVED B. A. DEGREE;
BATES COLLEGE, LEWISTON, MAINE, NOVEMBER, FORTY FOUR TO JUNE, FORTY
FIVE. ASCERTAIN IF ADMITTED TO BAR. EMPLOYMENT: UNEMPLOYED, AT
PRESENT TIME. VERIFY ACTIVITIES. RELATIVES IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, ONE TWO TWO BOWDOIN ST., BOSTON, MASS.,
BROTHER, FEDERAL GOVT. ^{CONGRESSMAN} REFERENCES: JOHN J. FORD, TWO SIX NAUGHT
TREMONT ST.; BARTHOLOMEW A. BRICKLEY, ONE FEDERAL STREET; HON.
WILLIAM T. MCCARTHY, FEDERAL DIST. COURT, FEDERAL BLDG., ALL BOSTON,
MASSACHUSETTS.

RICHMOND

EDUCATION: VIRGINIA LAW SCHOOL, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., SEPTEMBER,
FORTY EIGHT TO JUNE, FIFTY ONE, RECEIVED LL.B. DEGREE. ASCERTAIN
IF ADMITTED TO BAR.

NEW YORK

MILITARY SERVICE: UNITED STATES NAVY PAREN TWO FOUR EIGHT, SEVEN
SEVEN, TWO SEVEN, USNR, MARCH ¹⁹⁴⁴ TO JUNE, FIFTEEN FORTY SIX.

WASHINGTON FIELD

RELATIVES IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE: JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, ONE TWO
TWO BOWDOIN ST., BOSTON, MASS., BROTHER, FEDERAL GOVT. ^{CONGRESSMAN} SUTEL

SEPTEMBER TWENTY. SUREP SEPTEMBER TWENTY TWO.

CC- WFO (BSM) - TYPE
SENT VIA 77-51387

CAM:EAM M

Per

HOOVER

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Nichols _____
- Tracy _____
- Harbo _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

79-22
ny file
12/10/51
RECEIVED HEADQUARTERS
FBI
SEP 14 1951

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

BPS:GL

FBI RICHMOND 9-15-51 Time Initials
SAC NORFOLK URGENT
COVES. ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY, ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL DIVISION.
SUTEL SEPTEMBER TWENTY. SUREP SEPTEMBER TWENTYTWO. APPLICANT
RESIDES BOSTON, MASS. BORN NOVEMBER TWENTY TWENTYFIVE, BOSTON.
ATTENDED HARVARD UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA LAW
SCHOOL. INDICES RICHMOND REFLECT ONI, NORFOLK, CHECKED
APPLICANT-S NAME THROUGH RICHMOND INDICES JANUARY FIFTYONE.
NORFOLK REPORT ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION.

AUERBACH

END

cc-Bureau (by mail)

NOT RECORDED
20 SEP 17 1951

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
F B I
RECEIVED INQUIRY SECTION
21-18 3 PM '51
RECEIVED FBI

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO.

77-662

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT NORFOLK | DATE WHEN MADE 9/18/51 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/17/51 | REPORT MADE BY JERRY T. BATTIS, JR. snb |
| TITLE ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY | | | CHARACTER OF CASE DEPARTMENTAL APPLICANT Attorney, Criminal Division |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Files of [REDACTED]⁶² another Government agency, reflect background investigation conducted 2/51 based on applicant's application for commission in USNR as Naval Intelligence Specialist. Report favorable and nothing derogatory mentioned therein.

AGENCY Photo - Oc
 REQ. REC'D 10/14/53
 REP'T FORW. 11/2/53
 BY skk mdu

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Richmond teletype to Norfolk dated September 15, 1951.

DETAILS: AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA:

Files of [REDACTED]⁶² another Government agency which conducts security investigations, reflected background investigation was conducted in February, 1951, based on applicant's application for a commission in the USNR as a Naval Intelligence Specialist. The report reflected that faculty members at the University of Virginia remarked favorably concerning applicant and his educational background was verified at that school. Nothing derogatory was mentioned in applicant's file.

AGENCY 11-026
 REQ. REC'D 24-33
 REP'T FORW. 3-10-53
 BY glt

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

| | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----|--------------------|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <u>Benny W. Galy</u> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES | | |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau 1 - Norfolk | | | |
| 100 - 70000 - 9/27/51 | SEP 19 1951 | 16 | <i>[Signature]</i> |

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NY 77-662

ADMINISTRATIVE

INFORMANT

62

b7c per NIS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Agent, Office of Naval Intelligence,
Fifth Naval District, Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia,
who stated that this information appeared in
Fifth Naval District investigative report dated
February 12, 1951, under ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 19 1951
TELETYPE

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson | ..... |
| Mr. Ladd | ..... |
| Mr. Clegg | ..... |
| Mr. Glavin | ..... |
| Mr. Nichols | ..... |
| Mr. Rosen | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy | ..... |
| Mr. Harbo | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn | ..... |
| Mr. Nease | ..... |
| Mr. Gandy | ..... |

M. C. [Signature]

FBI, RICHMOND

9-19-51

10-53 AM

WSH

4738

DIRECTOR, FBI

DEFERRED

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY, DAPLI, ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL DIVISION.

~~HE~~ ATTENDED U. OF VA., DEPARTMENT OF LAW, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.,
 SEPTEMBER SIXTEENTH NINETEEN FORTYEIGHT TO JUNE ELEVENTH NINETEEN
 FIFTY ONE WHEN GRADUATED AND AWARDED LLB DEGREE. RANKED
 FIFTY SIXTH IN CLASS OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR HAVING EARNED
 SLIGHTLY ABOVE AVERAGE GRADES. ~~RECOMMEND~~ FORMER PROFESSORS AND
 ACQUAINTANCES RECOMMEND AS TO CHARACTER, REPUTATION AND LOYALTY
 AND DESCRIBE AS INTELLIGENT AND MATURE, POSSESSES AVERAGE KNOWLEDGE
 OF LAW, EXCELLENT ~~RECOMMEND~~ POISE AND SELF CONFIDENT. RECOMMEND
 FOR POSITION SOUGHT. NO CRIMINAL RECORD AND CREDIT RATING SATISFACTORY
 AT CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. NO RECORD OF APPLICANT HAVING TAKEN VIRGINIA
 BAR EXAM.

AUERBACK

END

11-59 AM OK FBI WA BSV

[Handwritten signature]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 20 1951

TELETYPE

49389

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson | ..... |
| Mr. Ladd | ..... |
| Mr. Clegg | ..... |
| Mr. Glavin | ..... |
| Mr. Nichols | ..... |
| Mr. Rosen | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy | ..... |
| Mr. Harbo | ..... |
| Mr. Mohr | ..... |
| Mr. Belmont | ..... |
| Mr. Lapham | ..... |
| Mr. Nease | ..... |
| Tele. Room | ..... |
| Mr. Gandy | ..... |

WASHINGTON 9 FROM BOSTON 20 7-05 P MAB
DIRECTOR DEFERRED

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY, ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL DIVISION, DAPLI, REBUTEL SEPT. FOURTEEN LAST. RECORDS, BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS, STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MASS., AND BOSTON CITY HALL, DO NOT REFLECT ANY ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY BORN IN BOSTON OR MASSACHUSETTS FROM NINETEEN TWENTY TO NINETEEN THIRTY. ATTENDED BATES COLLEGE, LEWISTON, MAINE, NOV., FORTYFOUR, TO FEB., FORTYFIVE, UNDER ARMY V TWELVE PROGRAM. RECORD FAVORABLE, TRANSFERRED IN GOOD STANDING TO HARVARD COLLEGE. NO ONE AT BATES COLLEGE RECALLED APPLICANT.

BATES COLLEGE RECORDS SHOW APPLICANT BORN NOV. TWENTY, NINETEEN TWENTYFIVE AT BOSTON, MASS. RECORD ON APPLICANT AT HARVARD UNIV., CAMBRIDGE, MASS., WHERE HE ATTENDED SEPT., FORTYSIX TO FEB., FORTYEIGHT, RECEIVING BA DEGREE, FAVORABLE. NO RECORD OF ADMISSION TO THE BAR, MASSACHUSETT. CLERK-S OFFICE, SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT OF MASS., SHOWS ROBERT F. KENNEDY APPLIED FOR ADMISSION TO THE MASS. BAR JULY NINETEEN, FIFTYONE. APPLICANT PRESENTLY BEING EXAMINED FOR SAID ADMISSION.

END PAGE ONE

6 pp

50 37

REFERENCES RECOMMEND APPLICANT HIGHLY. NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTIGATION
FAVORABLE. CREDIT RECORD FAVORABLE, NO CRIMINAL RECORD. RUC.

THORNTON

HOLD PLS

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Mr. Tolson | |
| Mr. Boardman | |
| Mr. Nichols | |
| Mr. Belmont | |
| Mr. Ladd | |
| Mr. Clegg | |
| Mr. Glavin | |
| Mr. Harbo | |
| Mr. Mohr | |
| Mr. Pennington | |
| Mr. Quinn | |
| Mr. Nease | |
| Mr. Gandy | |

WASHINGTON FROM WASH FIELD

19-20-51
 20-20-51
 20-20-51

DIRECTOR

DEFERRED

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY, ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL DIVISION, REBUFILE #4738
 SEVEN SEVEN DASH FIVE ONE THREE EIGHT SEVEN. CSC, HCUA
 NEGATIVE RE APPLI. NOTHING DEROGATORY ONI. BROTHER IN HOUSE OF
 REPRESENTATIVES SINCE FORTY SIX. CREDIT AND CRIMINAL NEGATIVE
 RE BROTHER. WILL SUREP.

STEIN

GFB:PME

77-37011

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epf

and

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

FILE NO. **77-4253**

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT RICHMOND | DATE WHEN MADE 9-20-51 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/17,18/51 | REPORT MADE BY JESSE C. HALL, JR. jch:pb |
| TITLE ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY | | CHARACTER OF CASE DEPARTMENTAL APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL DIVISION | |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Applicant attended U. of Va., Dept. of Law, Charlottesville, Va., 9/16/48 to 6/11/51 when graduated and awarded LL.B degree. He ranked 56th in a class of 124, having earned slightly above average grades. Former professors and acquaintances recommend as to character, reputation and loyalty and describe as intelligent and mature, possesses average knowledge of law, excellent poise and self confident. They recommend for position sought. No criminal record and credit rating satisfactory at Charlottesville, Va. No record of applicant having taken Va. Bar exam.

Photo - Cc
AGENCY REQ. REC'D 10/14/51
REP'T FORW. 11/2/51
BY DRK mdc

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau teletype dated 9-14-51.

DETAILS: AT CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

EDUCATION

10-058
AGENCY REQ. REC'D 3-6-53
REP'T FORW. 3-10-53
BY [Signature]

[Redacted] Registrar's Office, Department of Law, University of Virginia, advised her records reflect the applicant was born November 20, 1925, at Boston, Massachusetts. He entered the Department of Law on September 16, 1948, attending until June 11, 1951, at which time he was graduated and conferred the LL.B. Degree. According to the record he earned a scholastic average of .

b7c/b7d

| | |
|--|--|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <u>[Signature]</u> <small>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</small> | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2-Bureau 1-Richmond <i>100-70200-2/27/51</i> | <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>SEP 21 1951</p> <p>100-70200-2/27/51</p> </div> <p><i>100-Cia Fred Hall 4-29-53</i></p> |

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RH 77-4253

of 2.54 in a system utilizing 3.50 as the maximum earnable grade. Upon graduation he ranked 56th in a class of 124 which, according to [REDACTED], would indicate him to be slightly above average. She advised there was nothing in his record reflecting against his character, reputation or loyalty to the United States. b7D

[REDACTED] b7C/b7D
University of Virginia, related he taught the applicant while he attended there but actually got to know the applicant best through the applicant's extra-curriculum job as head of the Student Legal Forum of which he, [REDACTED] b7C was the faculty advisor. He related that while the applicant's scholastic record does not reflect that of a mental genius, he would consider him to be an extremely well-rounded young man possessing an average knowledge of the legal profession coupled with an acute interest in social and international affairs which in his opinion would well equip him for the position sought. [REDACTED] b7D pointed out that the applicant is the son of former Ambassador JOSEPH P. KENNEDY and related that he was very pleased to note the applicant's interest in public service which he stated was indicative to him of the applicant's general makeup in that he suspected that the acceptance of such employment would be made at no small personal sacrifice. He concluded that he would recommend the applicant for the position sought without hesitation or reservation.

[REDACTED] Department of Law, University of Virginia. b7C/b7D

[REDACTED] upon interview, described the applicant as an intelligent and mature young man whom they believed to possess excellent poise, a sense of self-confidence and average technical knowledge of the law as well as excellent common sense. They all recommended him for the position sought.

CREDIT

[REDACTED] b7C/b7D
advised her records reflect the applicant to have a

RH 77-4253

satisfactory credit rating there.

CRIMINAL

[REDACTED] ^{67D} Police Department,
advised his records make no reference to the applicant.

MISCELLANEOUS

[REDACTED] ^{67A} Virginia State
Bar Association, Richmond, Virginia, advised there was
no record of ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY ever having taken
the Bar Exam or having been admitted to the Virginia
Bar in their files.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

RH 77-4253

ADMINISTRATIVE

The investigation at Richmond, Virginia, was conducted by Special Employee TUVAL V. FARQUEAR.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

FILE NO. **77-37011**

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C. | DATE WHEN MADE 9/21/51 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/17, 19, 20/51 | REPORT MADE BY GEORGE P. SAXTRUM, JR. GPD:KM |
| TITLE ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY | | | CHARACTER OF CASE DEPARTMENTAL APPLICANT Attorney, Criminal Division |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

CSC and HCUA negative re applicant. Nothing derogatory ONI. Applicant's brother verified as Congressman. Credit and criminal negative re brother.

AGENCY *Photo-cls*
REQ. REC'D *10/14/53*
REP'T FORW. *11/2/53*
BY *WPK mte*

- RUC -

REFERENCES: Bureau file 77-51387.
Bureau teletype dated September 14, 1951.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Special Employee EDMUND J. EIDEN has advised there is no record of the applicant in the files of the Investigations Division, Civil Service Commission.

Special Employee FRED T. GHEEN has advised that the files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities were checked against the name of the applicant with negative results.

Special Employee ROBERT S. MUGAVIN advised that the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence reflect a request for a background investigation of the applicant was made in June, 1949, in connection with his application for a commission. Reports of the Sixth Naval District at Miami, Florida, and the Fifth Naval District at Norfolk, Virginia, were received and disclosed no derogatory information concerning the applicant.

| | |
|---|--|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>C. W. [Signature]</i> | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES |
| AGENCY <i>Photo-cls</i> REC'D <i>10/14/53</i> REP'T FORW. <i>11/2/53</i> BY <i>WPK mte</i> | 3 - Bureau 1 - Washington Field 4-29-53 <i>[Handwritten initials and notes]</i> |

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WFO 77-37011

Information in the Congressional Directory reflects that the applicant's brother, JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, has been a member of the United States House of Representatives since his election November 5, 1946, from the Eleventh District of Massachusetts.

Special Employee WALTER JAMES TOLSON advised that the files of the District of Columbia Credit Bureau were negative concerning the name of JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY.

Special Employee NICHOLAS R. MANFREDA advised that the files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., were negative concerning the name of JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY.

The Bureau has advised that a search of the Central Files of the FBI has been made and no information of a derogatory nature concerning loyalty which could be identified with the applicant was found.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

NEW YORK, NEW YORK
SEPTEMBER 21, 1951

Lead

WASHINGTON FIELD...DEFERRED

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY, ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL DIVISION. REBUTEL,
SEPTEMBER FOURTEEN, NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY ONE. BORN NOVEMBER TWENTY,
NINETEEN HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE, BOSTON, MASS. SERVED USN, MARCH,
NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY FOUR TO JUNE, NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY SIX, USN,
TWO FOUR EIGHT DASH SEVEN SEVEN DASH TWO SEVEN. RECORDS WRMC, GAYTH
CITY, NY, REFLECT NAVY RECORD CHARGED OUT JULY TWENTY, NINETEEN
HUNDRED FIFTY ONE. PRESENTLY LOCATED, CARE OF, MC INTOSH, BUREAU
OF NAVAL PERSONNEL, WASHINGTON, D. C. SUTEL SEPTEMBER TWENTY,
SUREP SEPTEMBER TWENTY SECOND. HANDLE. RUC.

SCHIEDT

J
CC: BUREAU

JWD:MAH
77-13906

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
LBI
RECEIVED LBI

SEP 24 1951

M

RP

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 9/21/51

FROM : SAC, BOSTON

SUBJECT: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
DAPLI
Attorney, Criminal Division

There are being forwarded herewith three copies of the Report of SA LOUIS H. BRIGBENDER dated 9/21/51 in the above-captioned case.

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

b7c

By reason of the apparent lack of pertinence of this incident to the investigation, it has not been included in the investigative report on the Applicant.

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

F. B. I.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT SECTION

SEP 21 1951

SEP 22 1951

13

3 ENCL

LHB/ner
77-5215
Encs.

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

ES FILE NO. **77-5215** per

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT BOSTON, MASS. | DATE WHEN MADE 9/21/51 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/19, 20, 21/51 | REPORT MADE BY LOUIS H. BEIGBEDER |
| TITLE ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY | | | CHARACTER OF CASE DEPARTMENTAL APPLICANT Attorney, Criminal Division |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Records, Bureau of Vital Statistics, State House, Boston, Mass., and City Hall, Boston, Mass., contained no reference to ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY's having been born in Boston or Massachusetts from 1920 to 1930. Applicant attended Bates College, Lewiston, Maine, November, 1944 to June, 1945 under Navy V-12 Program. Transferred in good standing to Harvard University. Records Bates College show Applicant born Boston, Mass., November 20, 1925. Applicant entered Harvard College in spring of 1944 under Navy V-12 Program until November, 1944 and returned in summer term of 1945 until January 31, 1946. Applicant returned in the fall of 1946 and was awarded an A.B. Degree March 1, 1948 in the field of Government. Applicant's academic record was favorable and Applicant recommended by University officials. References recommended Applicant highly. Neighborhood investigation indicates Applicant a person of good character, well thought of, good reputation and a loyal American. Records, Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, indicate Applicant presently under consideration for admission to the Massachusetts Bar. Credit record on Applicant and family favorable. No criminal record.

AGENCY *Photo - alc*
REC. REC'D *10/14/51*
REP'T FORW. *11/21/51*
BY *alk mde*

*170-cia
14rd Hall
4-29-55
29f*

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau teletype to New York and Boston dated 9/14/51.

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J. E. Thompson</i> | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT ③ - BUREAU (AMSD) 1 - BOSTON <i>100 - 7th Ave - 9/27/51 - 7th Hall</i> | ENCLOSURE <i>SEP 26 1951</i> |

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BS 77-5215

DETAILS

Investigation at Harvard University was conducted by SA RICHARD W. ALLEN; at Lewiston, Maine, by SA JOHN T. PAGE; neighborhood investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM A. TANNER; interview of references, by SA DAVID A. LYNCH.

BIRTH

The records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, State House, Boston, Massachusetts, contained no reference to ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY's having been born in Massachusetts from the years 1920 to 1930.

The records at Boston City Hall for the years 1920 to 1930 contained no reference to ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY's having been born at Boston.

EDUCATION

The records of the Registrar, Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, as exhibited by [REDACTED] ^{67/67D} showed the Applicant, born November 20, 1925 at Boston, Massachusetts, entered Harvard College in the spring of 1944, a member of the Navy V-12 Program. The Applicant attended until November, 1944, at which time he was transferred to Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. The Applicant returned to Harvard College in December of 1945 and remained until January 31, 1946, at which time he was transferred to sea duty. The Applicant returned as a civilian in the fall of 1946 and was awarded an A.B. Degree March 1, 1948 in the field of Government.

[REDACTED] ^{67/67D} Harvard College, reviewed the Applicant's personal folder and stated the Applicant's record was clear. He stated further the records indicated the Applicant was the son of the Honorable JOSEPH PATRICK KENNEDY, former United States Ambassador to the Court of St. James.

[REDACTED] b7c/b7D
[REDACTED] Harvard University, stated he knew the Applicant as a resident of Winthrop House. He stated the records at Winthrop House are clear relating to the Applicant. [REDACTED] said the Applicant associated with persons of normal American background. He stated he had complete confidence in the Applicant's loyalty to the United States and said he knew nothing in derogation of the Applicant's character.

[REDACTED] b7c/b7D
[REDACTED] Harvard University, stated she recalled the Applicant as a fine person of excellent reputation and character. She recommended the Applicant for employment with the Government of the United States as a loyal American citizen.

[REDACTED] Bates College, Lewiston, Maine, stated the records indicated the Applicant attended from November, 1944 to June, 1945 as a V-12 student. She stated the Applicant transferred to Harvard College in good standing. She stated further the records revealed the Applicant was born November 20, 1925 at Boston, Massachusetts. Miss BLOSSOM said there was no one presently at the college who recalled the Applicant.

REFERENCES

[REDACTED] b7c/b7D
[REDACTED] Boston, Massachusetts, stated he has known the Applicant since birth and recommended him highly for a position with the Government. He stated the Applicant and his family have a good reputation and that their loyalty to the United States is beyond question. He said the Applicant is intelligent and trustworthy.

[REDACTED] b7c/b7D
[REDACTED] Boston, Massachusetts, stated he has known the Applicant during the entire period of the Applicant's life.

[REDACTED] He stated he recommended the Applicant without

BS 77-5215

reservation for a position of trust with the Government of the United States and that he based this recommendation on all phases of the Applicant's character. He stated he had complete confidence in the Applicant's loyalty to the form of government of the United States and that the Applicant at all times had exhibited himself to be a person of good moral character and reputation. b7c/b7D

[REDACTED] Boston, Massachusetts, stated he has known the Applicant since birth and that, in observing the Applicant's development, he could say conclusively that the Applicant is a person of sound moral character and unquestionable loyalty to the United States and of good reputation and associates. He recommended the Applicant for a position of trust with the Government of the United States.

NEIGHBORHOOD

[REDACTED] b7c/b7D
122 Bowdoin Street, Boston, Massachusetts, stated the Applicant has resided at this address for approximately one and one-half years. He stated the Applicant appears to be a person of good character and reputation and that he knew of no statement or activity engaged in by the Applicant which would indicate that he was other than loyal to the United States.

[REDACTED] b7D
122 Bowdoin Street, Boston, Massachusetts, who have known the Applicant for approximately one and one-half years, stated the Applicant appears to be of good character, loyalty and reputation.

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

[REDACTED] b7D
Boston, Massachusetts, contained records which indicated the Applicant and his family had a favorable credit rating.

The records of [REDACTED] b7D
Lewiston, Maine, contained no information relating to the Applicant. b7c

BS 77-5215

The records of [REDACTED] ^{b7D} Augusta, Maine, a central repository for all criminal arrest records in the State of Maine, contained no information pertaining to the Applicant.

No record for the Applicant or any member of his family was contained in the files of [REDACTED] ^{b7D} Boston, a central repository for all criminal arrest records in Massachusetts.

^{b7C/b7D} MISCELLANEOUS

[REDACTED] Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, Suffolk County Court House, Boston, Massachusetts, stated there was no record of the Applicant's admission to the Bar of Massachusetts.

She further stated the Applicant filed a petition for admission to the Bar in July, 1951 and the successful applicants are presently being called for oral examination by the Board of Bar Examiners.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

BS 77-5215

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Birth checks at the State House and City Hall, Boston, were made by SE NORMAN R. JOHNSON; credit and criminal checks at Boston were made by SE FRANCIS L. MANNIX.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 22 1951
TELETYPE

Wm. C. [unclear]
41738

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson | ..... |
| Mr. Ladd | ..... |
| Mr. Clegg | ..... |
| Mr. Glavin | ..... |
| Mr. Nichols | ..... |
| Mr. Rosen | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy | ..... |
| Mr. Harbo | ..... |
| Mr. Alden | ..... |
| Mr. Belmont | ..... |
| Mr. Laughlin | ..... |
| Mr. Mohr | ..... |
| Tele. Room | ..... |
| Mr. Nease | ..... |
| Miss Gandy | ..... |

WASH FROM NEW YORK 39 22 6-28 PM
DIRECTOR DEFERRED

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY, DAPLI. REBUTEL SEPT. TWENTY TWO LAST. THIS
CASE RUC-D BY TEL TO WFO SEPT. TWENTYONE LAST. NAVAL RECORD NOT
LOCATED, GARDEN CITY, RUC.

SCHEIDT

HOLD

6/24

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, *Wfo* (Your file) DATE: *9-25-51*

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: *Robert Francis Kennedy*
Aspli

() The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to immediately submit a report. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau.

RUC Report submitted *9-21-51*
case reported by NY Tel 9/21 re Navy Service Record
 Report will be submitted _____

Reason for delay *reflected in v. report 9/26, Navy*
Service Record not yet available - Will subel +
Surep when available *77-37011*

- () Advise Bureau re status of this case.
- () Advise Bureau when report may be expected.
- () Surep immediately.

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| SEARCHED <i>W</i> | INDEXED _____ |
| SERIALIZED _____ | FILED _____ |
| SEP 26 1951 | |
| FBI - WASH. F. O. | |

LaF...

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)

RECEIVED
SEP 21 1951

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Mr. Tolson | |
| Mr. Ladd | |
| Mr. Clegg | |
| Mr. Glavin | |
| Mr. Nichols | |
| Mr. Rosen | |
| Mr. Tracy | |
| Mr. Harbo | |
| Mr. Mohr | |
| Mr. Winterrowd | |
| Mr. Nease | |
| Mr. Gandy | |

WASHINGTON FROM WASH FIELD

DIRECTOR

DEFERRED

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY DASH ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL REVISION. RE NY
 SEPT TWENTYFIRST INSTANT. ONI DETAIL, NAVY ANNEX, ARLINGTON, VA
 THEY HAD REQUESTED NAVY RECORD AS REPORTED IN RE TEL, BUT HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED
 IT. ONLY DATA THEIR FILES REFLECTS USNR V DASH SIX ENLISTMENT MARCH TO
 JULY NINETEEN FORTYSEVEN. CORRECT FILE NUMBER IS SEVEN FOUR EIGHT SEVEN
 SEVEN TWO SEVEN. WFO WILL SUTEL AND SUREP WHEN RECORD RECEIVED.

STEIN

K

GPB:RST
77-37011

aus

Cap

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 22 1951

TELETYPE

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson | _____ |
| Mr. Ladd | _____ |
| Mr. Clegg | _____ |
| Mr. Glavin | _____ |
| Mr. Nichols | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen | _____ |
| Mr. Tracy | _____ |
| Mr. Harbo | _____ |
| Mr. Alden | _____ |
| Mr. Belmont | _____ |
| Mr. Laughlin | _____ |
| Mr. Mohr | _____ |
| Tele. Room | _____ |
| Mr. Nease | _____ |
| Miss Gandy | _____ |

WASH FROM NEW YORK 39 22 6-28 PM
DIRECTOR DEFERRED

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY, DAPLI. REBUTEL SEPT. TWENTY TWO LAST. THIS
CASE RUC-D BY TEL TO WFO SEPT. TWENTYONE LAST. NAVAL RECORD NOT
LOCATED, GARDEN CITY, RUC.

SCHEIDT

HOLD

CC- *[initials]* nsen
Mr. Callan
Mr. Pitzer

Mr. A. Devitt Vanech
Deputy Attorney General

September 27, 1951

Director, FBI

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
DEPARTMENTAL APPLICANT
ATTORNEY
CRIMINAL DIVISION

With reference to your memorandum dated September 12, 1951, requesting that an investigation be conducted concerning Robert Francis Kennedy, there are attached copies of the following reports.

Report of Special Agent Louis H. Beigbeder, dated September 21, 1951, at Boston, Massachusetts.

Report of Special Agent George P. Baxtrum, Jr., dated September 21, 1951, at Washington, D. C.

Report of Special Agent Jerry T. Batts, Jr., dated September 18, 1951, at Norfolk, Virginia.

Report of Special Agent Jesse C. Hall, Jr., dated September 20, 1951, at Richmond, Virginia.

It has been determined that the Navy Service record of Kennedy is presently en route from New York to Washington, D. C. As soon as it can be located and reviewed you will be furnished a copy of the report reflecting this information.

[Handwritten initials]
77-51387
RSP:rlb
[Handwritten marks]

202 53 11 52 AM '51
RECEIVED - FBI
E B I

COMM - FBI
SEP 28 1951
MAILED 10

RECEIVED - FBI
F B I
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
SEP 29 9 34 AM '51

202 53 3 00 PM '51
RECEIVED - FBI
E B I
REC'D - 10780A, 2 OFFICE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (77-51387)

DATE: October 31, 1951

PCW

FROM : SAC, WFO (77-37011)

SUBJECT: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
Departmental Applicant
Attorney, Criminal Division

Re New York teletype dated September 22, 1951.

Enclosed herewith is the report of SA GEORGE P. BAXTRUM, JR., dated October 31, 1951, captioned as above.

Upon receipt of retel setting forth information that the applicant's Navy record was charged out from NRMC, Garden City to [redacted], a Naval intelligence officer on liaison with the Bureau of Naval Personnel at Washington, D. C., a search was made for the record with negative results.

*b7C
per
NIS*

11

A stop was placed in the files requesting FBI notification when the record was available. As set forth in enclosed report, applicant's record has not yet been located at the Naval Personnel Office here.

This stop will be continued at Naval Personnel and should the missing record be located, WFO will review the record and submit a supplemental report. *RUC.*

GPB/FMD

*Detached in file
11/2/51*

Enclosure

Left

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

88564

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

FILE NO.

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C. | DATE WHEN MADE 10/31/51 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/27;10/27/51 | REPORT MADE BY GEORGE P. BAXTRUM, JR. GPB/FMD |
| TITLE ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY | | | CHARACTER OF CASE DEPARTMENTAL APPLICANT ATTORNEY CRIMINAL DIVISION |

This report completes the investigation.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Navy record not located.

- RUC -

AGENCY Photo - CJC
REQ. REC'D 10/14/51
REP'T. FORW. 11/2/51
BY dill

REFERENCE:

New York teletype dated September 22, 1951.

DETAILS:

b7c PHONES AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Department of the Navy, has advised Special Employee GERALD F. BLISS that the service record of the applicant has not been located and is presumed to be lost, misfiled, or mistakenly "charged out."

Records of the Office of Naval Intelligence Detail, Navy Annex, Washington, D. C., were checked by Special Employee GERALD F. BLISS and found to contain a request that the applicant's service record be forwarded from Garden City, New York, but it has not been received. The only data in these files concerning the applicant, serial number 748-77-27, concerns his re-enlistment March 7, 1947 at Boston, Massachusetts, as a Seaman second class, United States Naval Reserve, V-6, for four years inactive duty. He was honorably discharged July 16, 1947 for the convenience of the government. There is no derogatory information concerning the applicant in these files.

AGENCY 10-052
REQ. REC'D 3-6-53
REP'T. FORW. 3-16-53
BY 9/16/67

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

(16)

100-01011
18 Feb 53
4-29-53

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <u>R.G. Hood</u> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT | | 77-51387-116 |
| 3 - Bureau (77-51387) 1 - Washington Field (77-37011) | | <i>6/21</i> |
| <u>100-01011-11-6-51</u> | | |

PROPERTY OF FBI - THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: January 28, 1954

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Shaw _____
- Tracy _____
- Quinn _____
- Nease _____
- Wanamaker _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

SYNOPSIS:

On morning of January 28, 1954, Robert Francis Kennedy called Director's Office and stated he would like to talk over personal matters with Director. Arrangements made for Kennedy to see Director at 4:00 p.m. same day. Kennedy is son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former ambassador to England, and brother of Senator John F. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts. On September 14, 1951, we opened Departmental applicant case on Kennedy who was applying for position of attorney in Criminal Division. Investigation failed to reflect any derogatory information and persons contacted recommended highly. Kennedy born Boston, Massachusetts, November 20, 1925. Attended Harvard University, Bates College, and received law degree from Virginia Law School in 1951. Served in U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946. Mrs. George Skakel invited Director to attend marriage of her daughter, Ethel, to Kennedy in Greenwich, Connecticut, on June 17, 1950. Invitation declined. In May, 1953, Robert F. Kennedy as an assistant counsel of Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Government Operations gave considerable testimony regarding ships carrying cargo to Communist China. Senator McCarthy gave credit to Kennedy and other members on his staff for agreement worked out with Greek shipowners to not carry goods to Communist China. In October, 1953, we received Security of Government Employees form for Kennedy when he was applying for position of Assistant to Commissioner on the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government. We conducted no investigation.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

cc - Mr. Nichols
cc - Mr. Holloman

RECORDED-97
INDEXED-97

127-5137-517
FEB 5 1954

DGH:rm/grs

50 FEB 12 1954

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

January 28, 1954

DETAILS:

On the morning of January 28, 1954, Robert Francis Kennedy called the Director's Office and advised that he would like to talk over some personal matters with the Director. Arrangements were made for Kennedy to come in to see the Director at 4:00 p.m. the same day.

Robert Francis Kennedy is the son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former ambassador to England and the brother of Senator John F. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts.

On September 14, 1951, we opened a Departmental applicant case on Robert Francis Kennedy, who was applying for a position of attorney in the Criminal Division. Background information furnished indicated he was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on November 20, 1925, and attended Harvard University, Bates College, and received his law degree from the Virginia Law School in 1951. He served in the United States Navy from 1944 to 1946. Investigation in this case failed to reflect any derogatory information concerning Kennedy, and all persons interviewed recommended him very highly. (77-51387)

An invitation postmarked May 19, 1950, from Mr. and Mrs. George Skakel and addressed to Mr. and Mrs. J. Edgar Hoover requested the honor of the Director's presence at the marriage of their daughter Ethel to Robert Francis Kennedy on Saturday, June 17, in Greenwich, Connecticut. This invitation was declined. (62-12188-3444)

A transcript of the hearings before the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Government Operations in the United States held on May 4 and 20, 1953, reflects that Robert F. Kennedy, assistant counsel for that committee, gave considerable testimony regarding ships carrying cargo to Communist China in 1952. (62-98810-109)

A Washington City News Service release dated March 30, 1953, goes into considerable detail about the agreement that Senator McCarthy had worked out with Greek shipowners not to transport goods to Communist China. The press release states that McCarthy gave full credit and high praise for his agreement to subcommittee general counsel, Francis D. Flanagan

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

January 28, 1954

(former Agent), and assistant counsels, Robert F. Kennedy and William A. Leece (former Agent). (62-98810 sub A)

On October 14, 1953, we received a Security of Government Employees form for Robert Francis Kennedy. This form reflected that he was an applicant for the position of assistant to Commissioner Kennedy on the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government. No investigation was conducted, but five reports were forwarded to the Commission taken from the Departmental applicant investigation we had conducted in 1951. (140-1-2062)

80-5

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Date March 8, 19 54 Time 11:10AM

Mr. Robert Kennedy, son of former
Ambassador Kennedy, and now with
Senator McCarthy's Committee, tele

Phone No. NA 8-9120 x 1247

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Boardman _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tamm _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Jones _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

REMARKS

Mr. Kennedy said he would like to come down and see Mr. Hoover at the Director's convenience sometime this week.

Mr. Kennedy was told the Director would be informed of his request and he would be called.

new

*Memo to Mr. Tolson, et al
3-15-54
gen/eff.*

100-18

[Handwritten signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols *[Handwritten initials]*

DATE: March 10, 1954

FROM : V. *[Handwritten initials]*

SUBJECT: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Rm.
- Holloman
- Miss Gandy

The Director's Office has requested background information concerning captioned individual in view of his proposed pending visit with the Director. You will recall that a background memorandum was prepared under date of January 28, 1954, setting forth a brief summary of information in Bureau files concerning Kennedy. Indices reflect no references to Kennedy subsequent to December, 1953.

It is to be noted that the Director saw Kennedy, apparently on a personal matter, on January 28 and also on February 15, 1954.

The memorandum dated January 28, 1954, is attached.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

[Handwritten note:]
 see file #
 77-51357-17

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten note:]
 Memo to Mr. Tolson, et al
 3-15-54
 JEM/ft

[Handwritten file number:]
 77-51357-19

cc - Mr. Holloman

Attachment

GMP:rm

[Handwritten number:]
 58

[Handwritten signature/initials]

[Handwritten number:]
 38

[Handwritten number:]
 35

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

4-22c

SEARCH SLIP

Supervisor Peel

Room 4234

Subj: Robert Francis Kennedy

Exact Spelling

All References

Subversive Ref.

Mail File

Restricted to Locality of

Searchers

Initial pe

Date 3-10-54

ref. after Dec. '53 (date)
FILE NUMBER (nothing with) SERIALS

77-51387-17 Summary

add 1/28/54

Robert F.

NR

R. F. - NR

Robert -

~~88-8392~~ - NI

Initialed

34

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. Boardman _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Belmont _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Parsons _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tamm _____
 Mr. Sizoo _____
 Mr. Winterrowd _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Miss Gandy _____

CONFIDENTIAL

AIRTEL
 FBI WASH FIELD (105-200)

DIRECTOR
 ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY

30092). [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

PRETEXT CALL TO SENATE DISBURSING OFFICE DISCLOSES ONLY ONE ROBERT F. KENNEDY AT SENATE WHO IS EMPLOYED ON THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATION. CURRENT WASHINGTON CITY DIRECTORY DISCLOSES ROBERT F. KENNEDY (ETHEL), ASSISTANT TO SENATOR MCCARTHY, 2804 O STREET, N. W. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] REFLECTS REPORT DATED JANUARY 14, 1952, FOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY, 3330 N STREET, N. W., WIFE ETHEL, EMPLOYED AT THAT TIME AS ATTORNEY WITH JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. FURTHER INDICATES KENNEDY'S SON, JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO ENGLAND

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 1/2/54

WPS/mmd
 CC-WFO-100-16597
 EX-125

RECEIVED SEP 29 1954
 RECORDED
 let Wm. P. [unclear]
 report A.G.
 8/20/54
 FUH: [unclear]

77-5111-194
 31581

13 SEP 2 1954

CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by 6616
 Exempt from GDS, Category 2, 3
 Date of Declassification Indefinite 3/1/80

cc teletype Unit

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE TWO

RECORDS OF THIS OFFICE REFLECT ROBERT F. KENNEDY INVESTIGATED AS DEPARTMENTAL APPLICANT IN 1951, FOR POSITION OF ATTORNEY WITH CRIMINAL DIVISION (BUFILE 77-51387). INVESTIGATION REFLECTS ROBERT F. KENNEDY BROTHER OF JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY WHO WAS THEN CONGRESSMAN FROM MASSACHUSETTS. CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTORY SHOWS JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY AS U. S. SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS. ABOVE FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU AND NO FURTHER ACTION BEING TAKEN BY THIS OFFICE UACB.

LL
LAUGHLIN

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

APR 24 1954
COMMUNICATIONS
FBI
RECEIVED

REC'D

APR 24 1954

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ cc - Mr. Belmont

Mr. William P. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General
77-51387-19X
Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

August 30, 1954

RECORDED-29 105 31591

EX-125

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

MAILED 3
AUG 31 1954
COMM-FBI

Information received from the Senate Disbursing Office, Washington, D. C., discloses only one Robert F. Kennedy at the United States Senate. These records reflect he is employed on the Committee on Government Operations. The current Washington city directory discloses that Robert F. Kennedy is an assistant to Senator Joseph F. McCarthy of Wisconsin, and resides with his wife, Ethel, at 2804 O Street, N. W., Washington D. C.

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Nease _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

FVH:bsb
Classified by 66470
Exempt from GDS, Category 2-3
Date of Declassification Indefinite 3/1/78

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

51 SEP 7 1954

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

67D of [REDACTED] Information dated January, 1952, in the records of [REDACTED] Washington, D. C., reflects that Robert F. Kennedy, 3330 N Street, N. W., wife Ethel, was employed at the time with the Justice Department. He was described as the son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former Ambassador to England.

Robert F. Kennedy is the brother of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, United States Senator from Massachusetts.

These data are being furnished for your information with the request that they not be further disseminated. No additional investigation is contemplated in the captioned matter by this Bureau.

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

9 - Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
77-51387-19X1, 19X2

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Parsons
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Sizoo
- Mr. Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Holloman
- Miss Gandy

AIRTEL
11/26/54

FBI WASH FIELD
DIRECTOR

ROBERT F. KENNEDY, IS - R. REBUAIRTEL DTD 11/22/54 INSTRUCTING WFO TO ADVISE IF UNKNOWN MAN IS ROBERT F. KENNEDY. SURVEILLING AGENTS WHO OBSERVED UNSUB 11/19/54 AGAIN OBSERVED HIM 11/24/54 AT THE SENATE OFFICE BLDG. PASSPORT PICTURES, DEPT. STATE, OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY WERE VIEWED BY SURVEILLING AGENTS WHO IDENTIFIED UNKNOWN MAN AS ROBERT F. KENNEDY. INQUIRY AT SENATE DISBURSING OFFICE REFLECTS THAT ROBERT F. KENNEDY IS EMPLOYED AS CHIEF COUNSEL TO MINORITY OF THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE SENATE.

NOV 30 11 00 AM '54
FBI WASH DC
REC'D

LAUGHLIN
LAO

NOV 30 2 08 PM '54
REC'D

Mr. Belmont

Just what is this all about?

51387-19X3
RECORDED - 50
NOV 27 1954

FBI - JUSTICE
REC'D BELMONT

EX - 109
NOV 27 1954

61 DEC 1 1954

FBI - JUSTICE
REC'D BELMONT

DEC 4 1954

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Tickers Mr. Belmont
Mr. Hitt
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Nichols

Mr. William P. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General (original & one)

November 29, 1954

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

Information received from the United States Senate
Disbursing Office reflects that Robert F. Kennedy is employed
as Chief Counsel to Minority of the Permanent Subcommittee
on Investigations of the Senate. u

RL-

[REDACTED]

b1

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE 11/29/54

105-91591

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General
William F. Tompkins

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FVH:mpd
RECEIVED - CIVIL DIVISION

Classified by 6616
Exempt from GDS, Category 2-3
Date of Declassification Indefinite 3/1/78

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Sizoo _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

RECORDED 13

DEC 2 1954

MAILED 3
DEC 1 1954
COMM-FBI

EL-107

REC'D POLICE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

51 DEC 7 1954

43

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. Boardman *LB*

DATE: November 29, 1954

FROM : A. H. Belmont *AHB*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

| | |
|------------|--|
| Tolson | |
| Boardman | |
| Belmont | |
| Mohr | |
| Parsons | |
| Rosen | |
| Tamm | |
| Sizoo | |
| Winterrowd | |
| Tele. Room | |
| Holloman | |
| Gandy | |

To answer the Director's inquiry "Just what is this all about? H." concerning Robert F. Kennedy who is employed as Chief Counsel to Minority of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Senate. *6-1*

[REDACTED] *b1*

[REDACTED] *b1*

RECOMMENDATION:

[REDACTED] *b1*

Classified by *6616*
Exempt from GDS, Category *2-3*
Date of Declassification Indefinite *3/1/28*

RECORDED - 60

EX - 109

13 DEC 2 1954

Attachment
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Hitt

DEC 8 1954

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REF SEC

Hitt
WTS
13
144

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 - Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. Boardman

DATE: December 22, 1954

FROM : A. H. Belmont

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Classified by 6616
Exempt from GDS
Date of Declassification 3/1/76

Tolson
Boardman
Belmont
Harbo
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
Trotter
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

[REDACTED]

You will recall subject is brother of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, U. S. Senator from Massachusetts. He is the son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former Ambassador to England and is employed as Chief Counsel to Minority of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Senate. u

[REDACTED]

These data were furnished Deputy Attorney General Rogers and Assistant Attorney General Tompkins by memoranda dated August 30, and November 29, 1954. u

RECOMMENDATION:

RECORDED-89

EX - 100

13 DEC 29 1954

[REDACTED]

I see no need to send to the Dept. LBN

105-31591

Attachment

cc - Mr. Boardman

cc - Mr. Belmont

FVH:adh

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOR APPROVAL

cc - Mr. Hitt

ESP SEC

61
46

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
77- 51387- Not recorded mail dated 1/25/55

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 - Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
77-51387-Not recorded mail dated 1/27/55

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

88566

February 9, 1955

ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
Born: November 20, 1925
Boston, Massachusetts

An applicant-type investigation was conducted in September and October, 1951, concerning Robert Kennedy. FBI reports of this investigation were furnished your Agency on March 10, 1953. No subsequent investigation pertinent to your inquiry concerning the captioned individual has been conducted by this Bureau.

The foregoing information is furnished to you as a result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is furnished for your use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency. (77-51387)

Orig. to OSD
Req. rec'd: 2-4-55
J. J. Shay:jmivan

1-A. H. Belmont
1-L. B. Nichols

(8)

Cover memo L. H. Conroy to Mr. A. Rosen
"ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
NAME CHECK REQUEST"
2-9-55
JJS:jmivan

RECEIVED HEADLINE ROOM
-8 10 10 25 AM '55
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Sizoo _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

RECORDED

77-51387-20

MAR 8 1955

68 MAR 3 - 1955

50

AGENCY CHECK SHEET

1955

DATE
3 Feb 1955

OSI CSC

FROM:

Office of The Secretary of Defense

LAST NAME

Specify)

NAME - MAIDEN NAME (if any)

is

ALIAS(ES) OR NICKNAMES

SEX
Male

MARITAL STATUS
Married

DATE OF BIRTH
20 November 1925

PLACE OF BIRTH (City and state)
Boston, Massachusetts

PURPOSE OF LIST OF DR.

request for Record Check. Any investigation subsequent to 9/18/51
OWS, ASSOCIATIONS, SOCIETIES OR CLUBS WITH WHICH AFFILIATED:

F 88567

MILITARY SERVICE

BRANCH OF SERVICE

SERVICE NUMBER

FROM (Date) TO

ALIEN REGISTRATION NUMBER

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

US Navy/Seaman 2/C

March 1, 1944 June 1, 1946

748-77-27

SPOUSE'S FULL NAME

SKAKEL, Ethel

ALIAS(ES) OR NICKNAMES

DATE OF BIRTH:

PLACE OF BIRTH (City and state)

RESIDENCES DURING PAST 15 YEARS

DATES

FROM

TO

STREET AND NUMBER

CITY

STATE OR COUNTRY

Jan/43

Jan/53

122 Bowdoin St.

Boston,

Mass.

EMPLOYMENT DURING PAST 15 YEARS

DATES

FROM

TO

NAME OF EMPLOYER

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT

10/10/51

6/1/52

U. S. Government, Department of Justice

EDUCATION

DATES

FROM

TO

NAME OF SCHOOL

LOCATION OF SCHOOL

3/1/44

10/1/44

Harvard College

Cambridge, Mass.

9/15/48

6/15/51

University of Virginia

Charlottesville, Virginia

REMARKS OF CHECKING AGENCY

IMMEDIATE Access To Top Secret
77-51387-20
ENCLOSURE

This is a request for a name check only and is not a request for an investigation or a clearance.

SD FORM 180 1 AUG 52

D 8976

54

51

Mr. A. Rosen

Classified by 10616
Exempt from GDS, Category 2-5
Date of De-classification Indefinite
gmb 2/17/8

February 9, 1955

L. N. Conroy

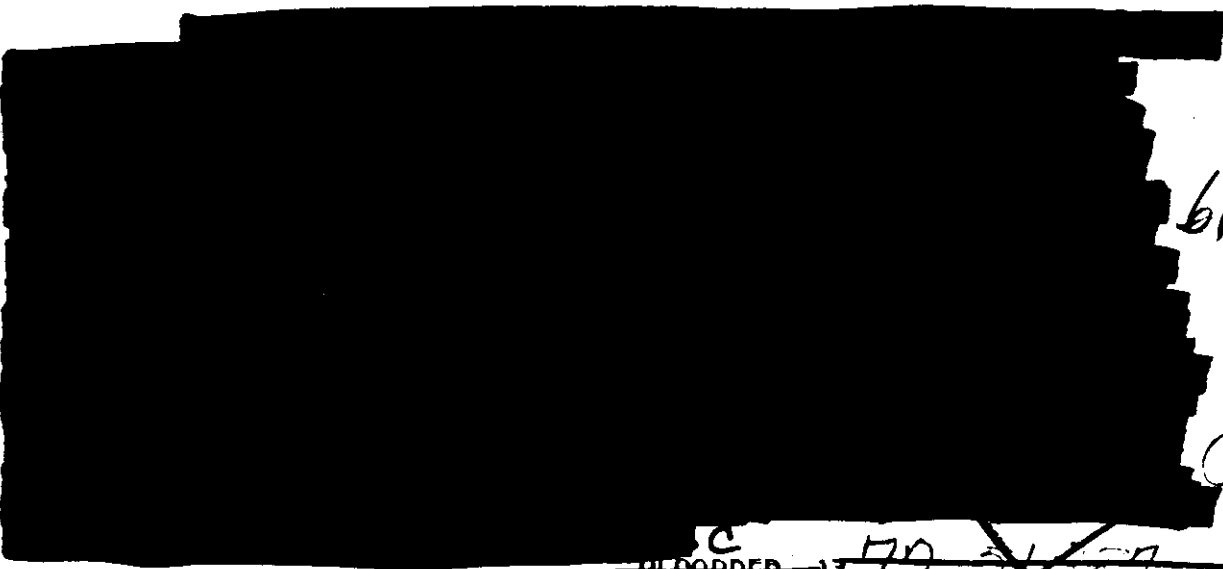
ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
NAME CHECK REQUEST

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Name check request from Office of Secretary of Defense (OSD) on Robert Francis Kennedy received 2-4-55. Kennedy, as Counsel to Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, U. S. Senate, on occasion may be granted access to top secret material of Defense Department. OSD requested any investigation subsequent to 9-18-51.

Kennedy is son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former Ambassador to England, and brother of Senator John F. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts. On 9-14-51, Bureau opened Departmental applicant case on Robert Kennedy, who was applying for position of attorney in Criminal Division. Investigation reflected no derogatory information, and persons contacted recommended highly. Reports of this investigation furnished to OSD 3-10-53. (77-51387) ✓

On 1-28 and 2-15-54, Robert Francis Kennedy saw the Director apparently on a personal matter. ✓



APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF
DATE 4/4/79

ORIGINAL FILED IN 105-31591-9

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Sizoo _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

The above data were furnished Deputy Attorney General Rogers and Assistant Attorney General Tompkins by memoranda dated 8-30, 11-29 and 12-22-54. (105-31591) Attachment ✓

- 1-A. H. Belmont
- 1-L. B. Nichols

RECORDED - 1779-31591-25

77-51387-
NOT RECORDED

119 MAR 3 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

50 MAR 17 1955

55

52

Memo to Mr. A. Rosen from L. N. Conroy

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) That the attached memorandum be furnished
the Office of Secretary of Defense by Liaison Section.

[REDACTED]

b1

c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: July 20, 1955

FROM : M. A. Jones

Classified by 6616
Exempt from GDS, Category 2-3
Date of Declassification Indefinite 3/1/78

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Sizoo
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

SUBJECT: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
REQUEST TO MEET THE DIRECTOR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PURPOSE:

To furnish identifying data concerning Kennedy, Chief Counsel, Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, who, on July 20, 1955, requested to pay his respects to the Director before leaving on a trip to Southern Russia. The Director indicated he would see Kennedy at 10:15 a.m., July 21, 1955.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA - IS SUMMARY

Kennedy was born November 20, 1925, at Boston, Massachusetts, attended Harvard College and the University of Virginia Law School. He is the son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former Ambassador to England and brother of Senator John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.)

INFORMATION IN BUREAU FILES

In September, 1951, the Bureau conducted a Departmental Applicant Investigation of Kennedy in connection with a position as attorney in the Criminal Division. Investigation was favorable and persons contacted recommended highly.

On January 28, and February 15, 1954, Kennedy saw the Director, apparently on personal matters.

In February, 1954, Senator McCarthy requested an investigation of Kennedy on the basis of his reappointment to the staff of the Senate Subcommittee. No investigation was conducted since Kennedy had already been appointed and McCarthy and Deputy Attorney General Rogers were so advised by letter. (62-98810-310,309.)

In March, 1954, you talked with Kennedy concerning the testimony of Mr. and Mrs. James Branca in the Annie Lee Moss case and the Director noted, "The attitude of Kennedy in this matter clearly shows need for absolute circumspection in any conversation with him." (121-2900-39.)



cc - Mr. Holloman
cc - Mr. Nichols

RECORDED - 64
INDEXED - 64

GMP:rus
(6)
(77-5172)

68 AUG 2 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

PERSONAL FILES

b1

57

54

July 20, 1955

[REDACTED]

In December, 1954, information was received from the State Department indicating Justice William O. Douglas was planning to go to the Soviet Union in August, 1955, and to be accompanied by Robert Kennedy. Douglas indicated that the trip would be for one month and that they planned to go through Moscow and Leningrad. (65-30092-5264)

In January, 1955, Bureau ^{was confidentially} furnished information to the effect that Kennedy and his Subcommittee was conducting inquiries on wire tapping in the District of Columbia and that they had contacted officials of the telephone company in this connection. (62-12114-2866)

On May 19, 1955, Kennedy was a guest on the Dave Garroway Television Program and was questioned concerning the Dr. John Peters case. His comments concerning the FBI were favorable. (121-4200-167)

You will recall that Harry Lev testified recently before Kennedy's Subcommittee in connection with the manufacture of military hats and caps and ^{Kennedy} was contacted by Bureau Agents prior to Lev's testimony. Kennedy was uncooperative in that he advised the Agents he would prefer waiting until testimony of Lev had been completed, then he would be more than glad to turn over everything concerning this case to the FBI. In this connection the Director noted, in part, " Kennedy was completely uncooperative until after he had squeezed all the publicity out of the matter he could." (46-23395-107)

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

80-5

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- [Signature]*
- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Boardman _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Parsons _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tamm _____
- Mr. Jones _____
- Mr. Sizoo _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Date July 19, 19 55 Time 5:28PM

Mr. Robert Kennedy, Chief Counsel,

Senate Sub-Committee on Investigations,

tele locally.

Phone No. The Capitol Extension 1247

REMARKS

When advised of the Director's absence from the office, Mr. Kennedy asked that the following message be given to the Director.

Mr. Kennedy stated that he was leaving for Southern Russia a week from tomorrow, July 27th, and would like very much to come by the office to see the Director sometime before he leaves. He indicated that he merely wished to pay his respects to the Director.

He was told that his message would be brought to the Director's attention immediately upon his return to the office.

[Handwritten notes: 6-1, 6-1]

[Handwritten mark]

ENCL.

[Handwritten: 7-109]

hgh

[Handwritten: make it for 10.150.7. July 21.]

[Handwritten: 2 SEP 21]

[Handwritten: 77-51387- 22]

RECORDED - 61

27 JUL 27 1955

50 JUL 29 1955

[Handwritten: Seen Per D. D. G.M.]

E-109

[Handwritten: 110]

DO-6.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

July 20, 1955

[REDACTED] called and referred to the call that Mr. Bob Kennedy made yesterday, requesting to see you before Kennedy goes to Russia.

[REDACTED] stated that he knew Kennedy was very anxious to see you before he left and would appreciate it if your schedule would so permit.

I told [REDACTED] that I was sure that you would want to see Mr. Kennedy if your schedule permitted, but I did know that your schedule was terribly tight right at this time.

FCH:eff (3)
1--Tele Room
1--FCH

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Boardman _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Parsons _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tamm _____
- Mr. Jones _____
- Mr. Sizoo _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

b7c

b7c

b7c

77-51387-22

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Boardman _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Parsons _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Sizoo _____
Mr. Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

cc 6-1

October 27, 1955

Robert Kennedy called and in your absence I talked to him. He wanted to make an appointment to see you sometime after the middle of next week. He wants to talk to you concerning his recent visit to Russia.

Mr. Kennedy stated he was leaving town and would not return until approximately Wednesday of next week but he would be available any time after that that would be convenient to you.

I told Mr. Kennedy that you were presently out but that his request would be brought to your attention.

RECORDED - 87 77-51387-23

FCH:hmb (4)
1--Telephone Room
1--Mr. Nichols
1--FCH

36 9:30
make it for
Nov. 3 - 4 P.M.

ok
continued
CRIMINAL DIVISION
NOV 10 1955

1- by me
10-27

NOV 16 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: November 1, 1955

FROM : H. R. Jones

cc-1

SUBJECT: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
MEETING WITH DIRECTOR

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Sizoo _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

PURPOSE: Robert F. Kennedy

To furnish identifying data concerning Kennedy, chief counsel for the Senate Investigations Subcommittee, who will see the Director at 4:00 p.m., November 3, 1955.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Kennedy was born November 20, 1925, at Boston, Massachusetts, attended Harvard and the University of Virginia Law School. He is the son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former ambassador to England, and brother of Senator John F. Kennedy (D.-Massachusetts).

BUREAU INVESTIGATION OF KENNEDY:

In September, 1951, the Bureau conducted a Departmental application investigation of Kennedy in connection with a position as attorney in the Criminal Division. The investigation was favorable and individuals contacted recommended him highly.



KENNEDY'S VISIT TO RUSSIA IN 1955:

In December, 1954, information was received from the State Department indicating Kennedy and Justice William O. Douglas were planning

"A Look Behind the Russian Smiles"

cc - Mr. Holloman
cc - Mr. Nichols

RECORDED - 87
48 71-51382-24
EX-125
16 NOV 9 1955

GMP:rm
11-4-55
JEN:ke
352
387
Enclosure

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

November 1, 1955

to go to the Soviet Union in August, 1955. On July 21, 1955, Kennedy saw the Director and advised that he was leaving for Southern Russia, July 27. ✓

The October 21, 1955, issue of U. S. News & World Report contains an article (attached) entitled "A Look Behind the Russian Smiles," which is an interview with Kennedy covering his six-week tour of Russia and Central Asia. This is a rather lengthy article which reflects Kennedy's views of Russian life. It points out that in some areas they were the first American visitors in many, many years; that the secret police watched Douglas and Kennedy, monitored their conversations and prohibited their travel to some areas. The article covers slave labor camps, segregated schools, the general life of people in Russia, the activities of LVD personnel, and general information concerning living conditions in Russia. ✓

MISCELLANEOUS:

Kennedy talked with the Director on January 28 and February 15, 1954, apparently on personal matters. ✓

In March, 1954, Kennedy talked with Mr. Nichols concerning the testimony of Mr. and Mrs. James Branca in the Annie Lee Moss case; and the Director noted, "The attitude of Kennedy in this matter clearly shows need for absolute circumspection in any conversation with him." ✓

In January, 1955, the Bureau was confidentially advised that Kennedy and his subcommittee were conducting inquiries on wire tapping in the District of Columbia and that they had contacted telephone company officials in this regard. ✓

In 1955, Harry Lev testified before Kennedy's subcommittee in connection with the manufacture of military hats and caps. Contacted by Bureau Agents before Lev's testimony, Kennedy was uncooperative in that he advised Agents he would prefer waiting until Lev's testimony had been completed and then make data concerning this case available to the Bureau. In this connection the Director noted, "Kennedy was completely uncooperative until after he had squeezed all the publicity out of the matter he could." ✓

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

✓
✓

Interview

—with **ROBERT F. KENNEDY**—

Counsel for Senate Investigations Subcommittee

A LOOK BEHIND THE RUSSIAN SMILES

What is life like in far Soviet corners? Are millions really kept in slavery?

Robert F. Kennedy, chief counsel for the Senate Investigations Subcommittee, accompanied Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas on a tour of Central Asia, and took the photos of Russian life shown here. In many of the areas no visiting Americans had been seen since the Russian Revolution.

Doors were opened and privileges extended. But the secret police watched Justice Douglas and Mr. Kennedy and monitored their conversations. Travel to some places was prohibited.

Yet much was learned about life in the U.S.S.R., and also about what lies hidden behind the Russians' new "friendly" approach.

While abroad, Mr. Kennedy, on leave from the Subcommittee, paid his own expenses.

Q How long were you in Russia, Mr. Kennedy?

A Just under six weeks.

Q Where did you go?

A We spent most of our time in Central Asia, which is composed of five countries—Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tadzhikistan and Kirghizia.

Q You were the first Americans to be over there?

A In some parts. Other Americans have gone to some of the cities, but in other parts they haven't allowed anyone.

Q What was your major reason for going?

A We were chiefly interested in going there because it is the "colonial" area of the Soviet Union—the people are entirely different from the natives of Central Russia—they are of Turkish and Iranian stock with a strong Mongolian strain.

Another reason that made it interesting is that it is a highly religious area.

At least up until 40 years ago the people were devoted followers of Mohammed, and it was an interesting question as to what had occurred since the Communists took over. Another interest was the remoteness of the region—there had been very few visitors, and yet the importance of the region cannot be overestimated. It's a large area, about 1.5 million square miles—it's bigger than India before partition and larger than all of Western Europe. It has a population of something under 20 million, which is relatively small, but it still exceeds the population of Canada or Australia.

The countries that border on Central Asia are so comparatively well known—Persia, Afghanistan, Sinkiang—we even had a representative in Sinkiang up until 1947. All those countries have had visitors and have had books written about them. But in this area there seemed to be a lack of knowledge and a lack of travelers. From 1500 up until the middle of the nineteenth century, Samarkand had only two visitors—both Russians—one happened to go there by chance and another

one was sent there, a Russian envoy. Otherwise there were no foreigners. Bukhara and other sections of Central Asia have been almost as isolated.

Q When did this region become part of the Russian empire?

A Some of it starting around 1869, but part of it—for instance, Bukhara—was ruled by an emir until 1924 or 1925. He was independent prior to the Revolution—he operated on his own authority. The Russians had conquered the land around, but he controlled his part. He kept a harem, and some of the women who lived in the harem are still alive. He owned 400 concubines and a number of wives.

Q And these countries are all now republics under the U.S.S.R.—each one a unit?

A Yes. And they each speak separate languages.

Q Do they have any newspapers in that area?

A They had newspapers—

Q In what language?

A I believe in their own local language, as well as *Pravda* and *Izvestia*.

We were in Baku in Azerbaijan before we entered Central Asia, and a guide was pointing out the Russian accomplishments. We came to a building and he said, "There is where the 100 newspapers in Azerbaijan are published." They are all published in the same building.

Q How did you happen to go with Justice Douglas on this trip?

A He came down to speak at the University of Virginia about five years ago. I was head of an organization which invited him, and we were talking about some of his trips, and he said he was hoping to go to Central Asia and asked if I would be interested. I said I would, and he had been trying every year since then to get visas.

Q After you left Azerbaijan, where did you go?

In Hidden Asia: Slave-Labor Camps . . . Segregated Schools . . . A Million Resisting Natives Disappeared

A We flew across the Caspian directly into Central Asia, where we spent most of our time. Then we traveled to Western Siberia, where we visited the cities of Barnaul, Novosibirsk and Omsk. We then flew to Moscow for six days, and then to Leningrad for a couple of days, and then I came out through Warsaw, spending two or three days there and afterward taking the train to Berlin. Justice Douglas went out through Helsinki.

Q Did you travel by plane?

A Yes, we traveled in Central Asia by commercial plane.

Q Are there roads?

A There are few paved roads in the cities in the western part of Central Asia. Further east more of them are paved. In a city like Bukhara maybe 30 per cent of the roads in the city are paved, and of course all the roads outside the cities are not paved—it would be impossible to drive a car through the area.

Q Did you take your radio in there?

A We did not.

Q How did you know what was going on in the rest of the world?

A We didn't know, we didn't have any idea. For instance, we never knew of the release of the prisoners from China until after we got to Moscow.

Q The newspapers didn't tell you?

A We would ask each day as the guide read them, but we were never told those things—for what reason, I don't know. There is a radio going in all of those cities, in the streets and in all the stores. All the farms that we visited have loud-

ROBERT F. KENNEDY, 29, is at present chief counsel of the Senate Investigations Subcommittee.

Boston born, Mr. Kennedy is a son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former U.S. Ambassador to Great Britain. He is a graduate of Harvard, where he played varsity football in 1946-47, and of the University of Virginia Law School.

In 1952 he managed the campaign in which his older brother, John F. Kennedy (Dem.), of Massachusetts, was elected to the Senate. Last year the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce voted Robert Kennedy one of the country's 10 outstanding young men. Also in 1954 he served as counsel for the Democratic members of the Senate Subcommittee during the McCarthy-Stevens hearings.

speakers. They even have loud-speakers for the people working in the fields; they have loud-speakers in the machine-tractor stations; they have loud-speakers for the factory workers. They go all day long.

Q Is it music?

A It's music; then they have the news and talks.

(Continued on next page)



ROBERT F. KENNEDY IS INTERVIEWED IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF U. S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

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Interview

Q You can't get away from it?

A No, it just drives you out of your mind.

Q Not a moment of silence?

A No.

Q What about in people's homes?

A I suppose they can turn it off there, but, if you go into a store, a department store, they will have a loud-speaker there.

Q Do people listen to it?

A I couldn't tell that.

Q Who furnished your guide?

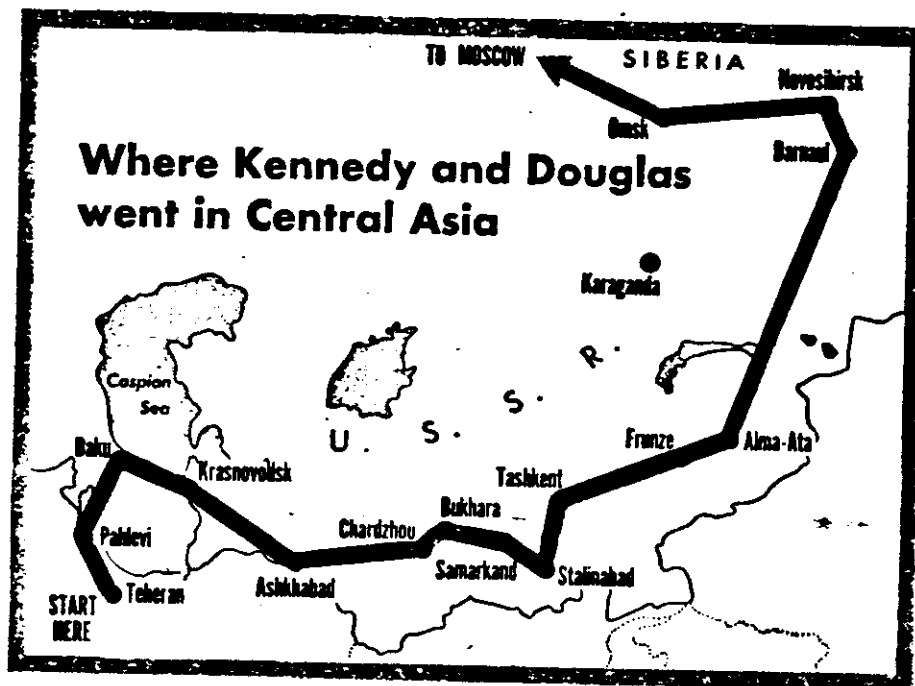
A Intourist [travel bureau], the Government.

Q On this radio business, where do the broadcasts come from—Moscow?

A A lot of them come from Moscow, but some come from the local stations. They have a very large station in Tashkent, which evidently is very active in broadcasts to the Middle East. And then, of course, they have a station in Baku, which is a large and well-known station in that part of the world.

Q Is there a new steel industry in Central Asia?

A I know of some plants, for instance, in Stalinabad. Before taking this trip I had read of this plant in Stalinabad, and when we arrived there I asked the guide what industry they had, and he said just textiles. He said that that was the sole means of support. It ultimately developed when we talked to the mayor of the city that they have a number of mines around Stalinabad, and, in addition, he told us they also have



FRUNZE: Factory workers in Soviet Central Asia



MOSCOW: Russian housewife goes about her shopping chores

a steel plant. Our local guide, on this occasion as well as others, gave us a good deal of misinformation.

Q Are they developing any new lands or making any effort to bring people down into that area?

A A lot of Russians have come in in the last 10 or 15 years.

Q What about Orientals—Chinese, Indians—did you see any?

A No, but of course the people are Oriental-looking. They are a mixture of the Turk race and the people who came in with Genghis Khan. They have the slanted eyes, the high cheek bones, the goatee, the little mustaches—they are completely different. They are as different from the Russian people as the Malayan people are from the English, the Algerian

from the French. There is absolutely no connection whatsoever, and, as I say, that is what made the area particularly interesting.

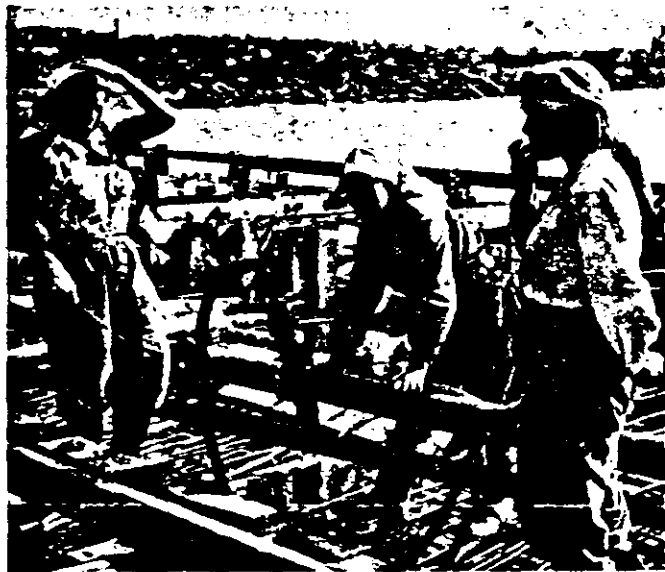
Q Is it a colony, in effect?

A Yes, it is. It is the Russian colonial empire as Morocco and Algeria are the French colonial empire.

Q Is there any spirit of nationalism?

A There must be, although it's difficult to tell. The native people have suffered a good deal under the Russians. Prior to going there, we knew this to be a fact from the statistics published by the Russians themselves. In Kazakhstan, for instance, during the collectivization, the Russians took a census in 1926 and published the number of Kazakhs in Kazakh-

(Continued on next page)



NOVOSIBIRSK: Women are construction workers



BUKHARA: Loud-speakers on tower blare music



STALINABAD: Scene inside a cotton mill



ALMA-ATA: View of Russian Orthodox church

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Interview

stan, which was a little bit under 4 million. In 1939 they published another census of the number of nationalities in the whole of the Soviet Union, and included therein was the number of Kazakhs in the whole of the Soviet Union and that was a little bit above 3 million. The Kazakhs during this 13-year period had been decimated about 1 million.

Q By deaths?

A That's the question. All through the rest of the Soviet Union the population increased 15 per cent, which means that the Kazakhs ordinarily would have been up to 4.5 million, if they followed the percentage of the rest. Instead they were reduced to 3 million or a little bit over.

Q Did they resist the Russians?

A That was the charge, at least. There were some Americans in that area at the time who said that the slaughter was terrible. The Kazakhs are nomads, they are fiercely independent people. There was an engineer named Scott in there and also a man named Littlepage, who were in the area during this period—

Q When did you meet them?

A I didn't; I have read some of their writings. During that time the population was decimated, and we tried to get an explanation of it from university professors and judges as to what had happened to all these people, whether they had fled the country or had been killed. The people to whom we talked, of course, claimed there had been no opposition to collectivization during this period of time.

These were Soviet statistics—they weren't something made up by people in the United States—so we asked how they explained what had happened to the Kazakhs. They just couldn't explain it. They were completely at a loss. The chief judge at Alma-Ata said that some of them were misled and fled over the border to China and now were coming back. But, once they admit even that, they admit there was opposition to the Russian program.

In addition, there were stories that these people slaughtered large amounts of their cattle rather than turn them over to the state. In Soviet Central Asia from 1928 to 1937, the number of sheep and goats was reduced to almost one third—18 million to less than 6 million.

During the same period of time horses and cattle declined from a little over 5 million to 2.5 million. The region's total livestock herd in 1934 was only about 45 per cent of what it had been in 1928. This gives you an indication of what was taking place in the area.

Q These animals were slaughtered by the Kazakhs themselves?

A Yes, and by their neighbors in the other four republics of Central Asia.

Q Are there any Europeans in there?

A Russians, of course, but very few others. We asked in various places, but there hasn't been more than a handful of visitors into any of these areas in Central Asia. We saw a lot of Chinese up in Siberia when we went through there—plane-loads coming through.

Q How far over in Siberia did you get?

A It was an interesting story why we went to Siberia. We wanted to go there for a short visit anyway, but we had wanted to go up into the "new lands" in Kazakhstan to see the "virgin lands" program. We wanted to go up through a city called Karaganda, and then continue north and west, stop and inspect the new-lands program and then go on up through Siberia to Moscow. We told our guide that we wanted to stop at Karaganda on the way. Several days later our guide came to us and told us he had found a better area for us to visit the virgin lands.



UZBEK MAN leaving a mosque



KAZAKH women at a collective farm

We asked whether we should drive, and he said it was probably better for us to take a plane. In consultation with the local government officials, we were told that to fly to this new area would take about an hour and that we could go on to Karaganda from there.

We asked whether we should leave our clothes in Alma-Ata, where we were, and stop to pick them up on our way to Karaganda, but they advised us to take them along with us. We boarded the plane early one morning, and six and a half hours later and more than 1,000 miles away we got out. We had been shipped to Siberia. Then they told us we couldn't go to Karaganda as there were no planes there.

We wanted to get to Karaganda because it was in Central Asia and because it was a coal-mining district. In addition,



FRUNZE: Old couple and children are waiting for a bus



ASHKHABAD men are Turkish-Mongolian mixture



MOSLEM leader (third from left) poses with assistants

there was industry and copper mines that we wanted to see. So we told them if there were no planes we would take the train back to Karaganda. They said there are no trains out of there, and the only thing to do was to go north and get a plane out of Novosibirsk.

We stayed and inspected the virgin-lands program in Barnaul, and several days later flew on to Novosibirsk. There they told us we could not possibly go to Karaganda, there were no planes and the trains were bad and, anyway, it was too far. We told them we were planning to go back no matter how difficult it might seem. So we started back. When we had gotten within a reasonable distance we were told by the local government officials, "We've got orders from Moscow that you can't go there."

We found out later that there were trains from Barnaul to

a city very close to Karaganda and that we could also have gotten a plane from Novosibirsk to a city very close to Karaganda. In addition, we learned that we never had to go to Barnaul in the first place because there are very important virgin lands right outside Karaganda.

Q How do you explain that run-around?

A We learned in Moscow that Karaganda is one of the great slave-labor camps in the Soviet Union. Some of the Spanish soldiers, volunteers of World War II who were released last year, had been working there and have told about it. The Russians didn't want us to see it. But they never said no—just gave us the run-around until they saw we were going to get there.

Q So there is no freedom to travel there?

(Continued on page 136)

A LOOK BEHIND THE RUSSIAN SMILES

Interview with
**Robert Kennedy, counsel for
Senate Subcommittee**

[continued from page 67]

A They let you see quite a bit, but, on those things that are touchy, they won't let you see them and they won't give you any information about them.

Q You weren't trying to see anything military, anyway, were you?

A No. We were interested in the coal mines. Justice Douglas was particularly interested—he had been up to Bethlehem, Pa., and had inspected the steel plant and had gone through some of the coal mines around there, and he wanted to go into Karaganda and make a sort of comparative study. It is one of the areas in Central Asia that has industry like Bethlehem, and it would have been an interesting study.

Q Do they maintain any troops in that area?

A In every city that we went to they do have troops—it's one of the things that strike you. One of the other things which were of interest to me was the fact that there were so many troops doing manual labor, which is something you don't see in this country.

Q Were they in uniform?

A Yes. A great controversy was raised about Korea a number of years ago—about using our troops for labor purposes, but these men in Russia are put to laying the pipes in the streets, putting up buildings, laying bricks. We saw it in Frunze, Tashkent and other cities. They do the majority of the work in the oil fields around Baku.

Q Do they get paid extra for that?

A No. It is one of the things that bear on this question recently in the news about letting 600,000 soldiers out of the Red Army. They might take their uniforms off and have them continue at the same job. Of course, Baku is their oil center, and they had soldiers driving all the trucks. There were hardly any other workers there, other than uniformed men. Even in Siberia, they had soldiers erecting the administration building at the airport.

Q In the towns, where the soldiers were lounging around, did they have their guns with them?

A Yes, often.

Q How do they understand the language?

A I don't think they have any problem with that—in performing their duties they probably don't have much contact with the local people. In addition, more and more people now understand Russian. This is so despite the fact that the Russians maintain one set of schools for their children and one

set of schools for the children of the local people. It is a segregated school system.

Q Why is that?

A The explanation the officials gave us is that people like their own schools.

Q It isn't a racial question?

A I believe that is a reasonable assumption. In every city that we visited in Central Asia the schools were segregated—the Russian school children in one school, the local children in another.

Q Is there a difference in color between the Russians and the natives?

A Oh, yes, they are completely different.

Q I mean in color.

A Oh, yes. The Russians are European, white. The natives are Mongolian—a dark race.

Q What about the religion? You said earlier the entire region is Moslem—

A Well, in Bukhara, which once was the center of religious fanaticism, even probably more so than Mecca, they had 300 mosques and religious schools 35 years ago. Now they have one mosque, and that looks like it is about to fall down, and one school there where they teach about 100 students and which has to serve the whole of Central Asia. They don't have a mosque in Krasnovodsk. They don't have a mosque in Ashkhabad. Krasnovodsk has about 100,000 population and Ashkhabad over 200,000. The mosque there was partially damaged during an earthquake in 1948 and has never been rebuilt. And they have no mosque in Stalinabad, a city of about 300,000.

So it is rather difficult for them to practice their religion, particularly in the face of the outspoken hostility of their Government. Communism teaches there is no God and that religion is for backward people, and Russia obviously wants no backward people.

Q You had no means of telling whether they had fallen away?

A No. In Bukhara we went to a Moslem service on Friday, and there were only about 20 people in attendance—they were all old men. However, you hear conflicting reports as to whether people are more or less active in their religion than they were a few years ago. There is no doubt that the Russians have tried to destroy the people's religious belief. Whether they have been successful is difficult to tell. There are a great number of Baptists in that area, surprisingly.

Q Russians or Orientals?

A Russians. The minister in Tashkent said that in 1952 he had a congregation of 700 Baptists, and now he has a congregation of 2,000. When we attended, there were over 1,000 people there, and there was also a good-sized congregation in Frunze.

RISE IN CHURCHGOING—

Q Was that the result of missionary activity?

A It might be. The newspapers in Russia keep deploring the fact that more people are going to church and that even Communist Party members are now going to church. There might be some significance to that. However, I don't feel that I am qualified to say.

Q You say the newspapers deplore the fact that people are going to church?

A Yes. There was a letter in a paper in Moscow from a woman who said she was a party member and that her fiancé wanted to get married in the church, and would that be proper, and the answer was that it certainly would be

... "Wires in all rooms we stayed in were tapped"

completely improper. The Communist Party is against any church services, and there are letters in the papers deploring the fact that more people are going to church and that even Communist Party members are going to church. So evidently there is some sort of religious revival going on inside of Russia, but it is difficult for somebody who doesn't speak the language to get the facts on it.

Q Were there any Catholic services, or Russian Orthodox?

A There are Russian Orthodox services. There are a number of their churches in Central Asia—not in all the cities but in some of them. And, again, the ones we went to, there were older people, mostly women, attending the service with only a small percentage of younger people. However, in contrast, at Baptist services there were a great number of young people and a great number of men.

I might add that the Communists have allowed only a few churches of any denomination—Jewish, Moslem or Catholic—to remain open. Most churches in the Soviet Union have been turned into museums or stores and their contents—chalices, etc.—placed on exhibition.

Speaking of this religious question, in Leningrad they have a museum which is devoted completely to ridiculing God and people's religious beliefs. For instance, as you enter they have God sitting on top of the cross, wearing a top hat, smoking a cigar and portrayed as a capitalist while a working man is bent over carrying the Cross and Him.

SHOW PLACE FOR ASIA—

Q Did you get the impression that the standard of living in Central Asia had risen or fallen?

A I would say it had risen. I think one of the reasons that area is so important is that it is going to be an area in which the Russians are going to bring in the people of Asia and the people of the Middle East, and say, for example, "Now you know the condition in Iran. There you have absentee landlordship, large estates and extremely poor villages. Here in Central Asia there is no starvation and the people's standard of living is improving each year. Our people are living better and better. That's what you can do under Communism."

I think this is going to be a tremendous problem. Chester Wilmott [British newspaper and radio correspondent, author of "The Struggle for Europe"] said in his book in 1952 that the future of the world might well be decided in Central Asia. One of the main reasons for that is that the countries of the Middle East and Asia will be influenced by the success, or lack of it, of Communism in the republics of Central Asia. Even now it might well be an impressive sight for people coming into this area unless, of course, they consider the human sacrifices that were made and are being made to achieve some of these gains—the possible liquidation of 1 million people in Kazakhstan alone, for instance.

Q You spent six weeks, most of it in that area?

A Yes.

Q Did you ever get a chance to talk to anyone alone, or was your guide always there?

A He was always there. We didn't speak Russian or the local language, either one of us.

Q They wouldn't let you bring in your own interpreter?

A No, we tried to, but the Russian Embassy in Washington wouldn't even answer our letters of request.

Q How do you know this fellow interpreted correctly?

A We know on occasion he did not. But that is one of

those things. I think we got a great deal out of the trip, and we went in with the understanding that that was how it would be.

Q Did you talk with the MVD people, the secret police?

A We did. We saw the heads of the MVD in Alma-Ata, the capital of Kazakhstan. It was the first time the MVD has ever given an interview to people of a foreign country. Among the matters we discussed was wire tapping.

Q Did they tap wires?

A They said that they didn't. They said that they frowned upon that "disgraceful" practice, that they never touch mail, either; that it was most despicable for anyone to do that sort of thing.

They told us they have about 250 different headquarters in Kazakhstan alone. In addition to their own people, they control the police as well as the fire department.

We asked them specifically about the mass movement of individuals from one area to another by the MVD. They denied to us that they had this power in transporting individuals, although it is specifically set forth in their by-laws and we know of examples where it has happened. In fact, when we were in Siberia we saw some of the people who had been so moved and took some pictures of them.

Q When you say that they don't tap wires or put in dictaphones, did you hear in Moscow about what Chancellor Adenauer of Germany had complained about?

A I understand that his companions found so many dictaphones in all their hotel rooms that they refused to stay in the accommodations prepared for them and ended up sleeping in a railroad car in the station.

Q Did you hear anybody in the embassies complaining about wire tapping?

A I've heard it a great deal.

Q Even before you left this country?

A Yes, and I think undoubtedly the wires in all the rooms we stayed in were tapped. After conversations we had, we would find results of things we had said in our rooms.

Q To each other?

A Yes, and that would lead us to the unmistakable conclusion that our rooms had taps in them—in fact, we had conversations for that purpose alone, because we wanted to put over a particular idea and it worked out that way.

Q What else did the MVD people tell you?

A Well, we were interested, of course, in the transportation of people.

ROLE OF SECRET POLICE—

Q You saw these MVD people in different places?

A Yes, the uniformed ones we saw in every city we went to. We asked the MVD officials if their people were all in uniform, and they said, "Yes." After pursuing it, they said, "On certain jobs we take them out of uniform, but they are in uniform most of the time." And actually we know that a large percentage of the MVD are secret police who wear no uniform. We asked them if they operated outside the Soviet Union, and they said, "No." And then we asked if there was any security organization operating outside the Soviet Union, and they said, "No."

Then we said there must be something that they do outside the Soviet Union, and they said, "Well, there might be, but we don't know anything about it." Petrov's story as it

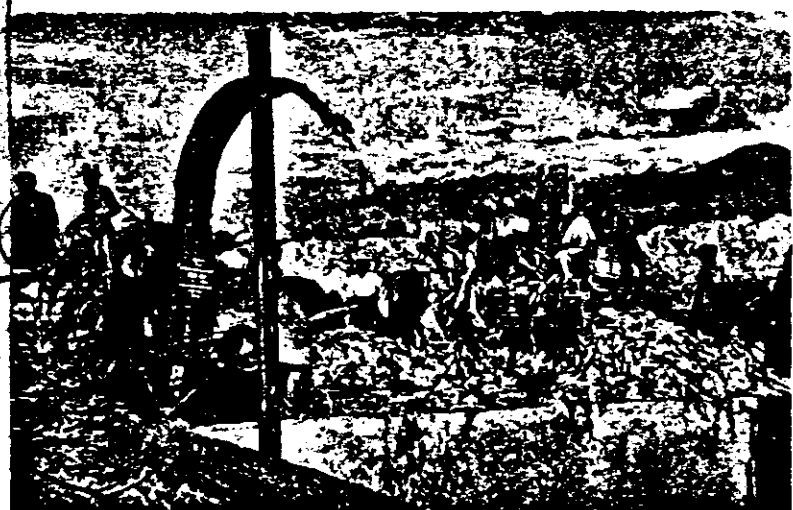
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CHURCH: Choir sings at Baptist service



COURT: All three judges are women



COLLECTIVE FARM: Pit in foreground is for storage

appeared in *U. S. News & World Report* several weeks ago [issue of Sept. 30, 1955] makes that answer untruthful.

They explained that they had control of the prisons in the Soviet Union. We asked if they had any labor in the prisons who did work on buildings or did work on roads, and they said, "Yes, and the parents and wives of these prisoners write in and thank us. They think it is wonderful because a lot of these people never did any work before in their lives, and we put them to work."

Q Did you talk to these MVD people in many places?

A Just at Alma-Ata. We asked about how many prisoners were doing prison work, and they said they had jurisdiction only in Kazakhstan so they wouldn't know. And we asked them how many were doing work in Kazakhstan, and they said that they didn't have those figures at hand. Of course, Karaganda, which I told you about earlier, is in Kazakhstan and is one of the great slave-labor camps in the Soviet Union.

Q You said some of the party officials were a little unpleasant at times—in what way?

A It was their mannerisms and their refusal on occasion to give us honest and correct information, rather than being outwardly rude.

Q They were abrupt?

A Yes, sometimes. We were always extremely interested in the collectivization problem and the local people's opposition to it, and that conversation always ended on a rather ruffled tone.

Q When you asked about the Kazakhs?

A Yes, but also about the other peoples of Central Asia. In each area, we tried to find out about what problems the Government faced during this period when individual ownership was being abolished.

HUMAN COST OF "PROGRESS"—

Q Why were you interested in that particularly?

A There was the serious allegation that there had been so much opposition to collectivization and that the Russians had taken stringent measures to crush the local people's resistance, that we wanted to find out the facts. You can go into this area as a visitor like Nehru [India's Prime Minister] and the degree to which it has been built up is impressive, from a materialistic point of view. But I think also the price that was paid in human beings in order to make this change and, too, that the people have such a difficult life even now should be considered.

Sections of population were banished or liquidated to achieve the domination of the state. The breaking down of family life is effectively carried out by mothers working for the state and depositing their babies progressively in state nurseries, later into Pioneer camps, and, ultimately, in the Young Communist League. During this most important formative period the children and the young people are being thoroughly indoctrinated that their first love should be the state, not God, their parents or their family.

Q How young do they take the children?

A In the nurseries they take them at the age of 2 months. They are not supposed to take them until they are 7 years old in the Pioneer camps, but at the one we went to we saw children of 3 or 4 years of age. The woman in charge explained that these children were just visiting for the day, when we inquired, but then, when the rest of the children sang songs, these younger ones knew all the words.

Incidentally, one of the songs they sang was about the French dock workers' not wanting to fight against the dock

workers of the Soviet Union—and all this starting at the age of 3 or 4.

Q These nurseries—do the little ones stay there all the time? Do they go home at night?

A Yes, I imagine so. However, we were there at 6:30 at night and, out of a group of 110 children in this particular nursery, there were about 60 left, the oldest being 3. The parents aren't going to see a great deal of them at that rate.

Q And then they go in the morning early?

A Yes, and they provide a little room where, if you are nursing your child, you can come in and nurse the child and then go back to the factory.

Q Going back to the houses, the Russians usually have pictures in their houses—are there pictures of Stalin?

A In the administration building of the farms they always had pictures of Lenin and Stalin and sometimes of other Communist leaders such as Molotov, and occasionally we saw Mao Tse-tung's picture. However, they have Lenin and Stalin everywhere, until it comes out of your ears. On the floors of every hotel, in the streets, they have statues and pictures—every place you go.

While in Russia we inquired into the question of academic freedom and the right of the citizen or the press to criticize the Government. We talked to judges, professors and presidents of the universities, and they said there wasn't any opposition because what the Government did was always right. All the people of Russia realized this and realized that if they opposed the Government they would be wrong, and so, therefore, no one did. What the Government did was absolutely correct, they said, so why would anybody oppose it?

Q Did you find in the cities that there were sections with office buildings, or were they small business sections and the rest all rural in appearance, in these cities of 800,000?

A The business and living quarters are interspersed in the cities. Tashkent is a city of 800,000, and there it's a 25-year plan that they have—in which time they are going to try to modernize the city. They gave us a figure that 50 per cent of the city is still the old city. It looked like probably even more than that, but there are some very beautiful parks and very beautiful trees.

A FORM OF SLAVERY? YES—

Q You mentioned the question of slavery—do you think their whole system really is a form of slavery? What is the broad impression you took away?

A I believe it is. Communism retains its basic evils whether it is the Khrushchev type or the more oppressive Stalin type. Recently the new rulers have made certain concessions in the Soviet Union to the people—for instance, they allow them now to go into Red Square, they allow them to visit the Kremlin. The farmer is permitted to plant more things that he wants to on his own private lot—they have made certain concessions. But the main things about controlling Government still exist in the hands of the Presidium.

They haven't relinquished any of the real power, and the ordinary citizen feels the full extent of it—even to where a factory or farm worker cannot leave his job without permission of his superior—in other words, the state.

They still have on the books that idea that the MVD through the Department of Interior can try somebody with a secret trial and send him off to prison and extend the sentence when he is in prison. You have intense concentration on labor—that everybody must work for the state, the women must work—so therefore the family unit, which I think our society

(Continued on next page)



TRANSPORT: Farmers ride camels near Ashkhabad



FARMERS: They work on a state farm near Frunze



—All photos taken by Robert F. Kennedy

BARGAINING: A market scene in Tashkent

... "I don't think U.S. should make all those concessions"

is built on, is all broken down. You are working for the state—that's the important thing, it's not your mother or your father or your family, it's the state—the state has become god in Russia.

Q But people coming back from Russia are all singing hymns of praises—Senators, Congressmen saying they found it much better than they expected, and Russia they thought was fine, the people are getting along all right, and so on. Did you come back with that highly favorable idea?

A No, I think you can tell that I didn't like what I saw.

Q Why did they get that reaction—why did it seem that way to them?

A That I don't know.

I think it is difficult to go into just a city like Moscow and Leningrad and come out with an impression of a country, any more than if you just came to New York and Washington. But I think, however, it is the easiest thing in the world for the Russians to say now that they want peace, and that they are going to cut down their Army by 600,000. However, there is still no inspection.

I don't see that they have made any move that anybody can check on. As I say, these small concessions they make to their own people are concessions that will mean nothing to the Government and the Government's control of the people. They are just irritants on the people anyway—they are not conceding anything.

In return for their allowing some Senators and some of the rest of us into the Soviet Union, there is talk in our country, as well as a lot of countries in Europe, of cutting down our defense commitments. I haven't kept up with the papers here—I haven't had a chance to read them—but I see we are talking about sending over more technical magazines, allowing more technical magazines to go out. We are talking about allowing more trade in strategic goods. In 1954, after the meeting in Paris, we cut the list [of prohibited exports to Russia] by 50 per cent and are now talking about cutting it even more. The agricultural delegation unquestionably made a tremendous contribution to Soviet agriculture.

INEFFICIENCY ON FARMS—

Q Which delegation?

A Our group that went there, and their group that came here. We are so far more efficient—in the Soviet Union the average farm worker can handle four hectares of farm land, which is about 10 acres. In this country our farmers can individually handle 20 hectares, which is about 50 acres. We are that much more efficient.

We visited one of the best cotton farms, outside of Tashkent, which is the center of their cotton production and where their production per acre is about as good as we have in this country. It is very productive and they have done a good job. But each worker would handle maybe 1 hectare or 1½ hectares of cotton—about 3 or 4 acres. In this country a worker will handle between 8 and 10 hectares of cotton—about 25 acres of cotton—on the average cotton farm. On farms in Iowa, one worker handles about 55 hectares of corn, about 135 acres.

In the Soviet Union, on an extremely good farm that we visited, each worker was handling between 3 and 4 hectares—about 10 acres of corn. It is the same with wheat. The average worker handles 70 hectares of wheat in Nebraska, or about 175 acres, while on these good farms we visited in the

Soviet Union they were handling about 40 acres of wheat.

They have a labor shortage in the Soviet Union, and getting these people off these farms on to the new lands and putting them back into factories is a tremendous contribution to the Soviet economy—which, of course, is a war economy.

Q They say they are going to be our brothers—

A That's fine. All I say is—and I'm all in favor of that, I think it's terrific, and I think we should have more trade and all of that—but all I say is: Before we do all those things let's get a *quid pro quo* on it. Just on the basis of a smile, I don't think we should make all those concessions. They have a system of government which is entirely different from ours, which is based on the rights and dignity of the individual. I am not saying they aren't entitled to theirs, but they just don't believe in the same sort of things we do.

Take the labor unions. Their idea of a labor union's duties is to make sure that the sanitary conditions are properly maintained in the factories.

Q Did you inquire about it?

A Yes. We asked what would happen if they felt the members of their union were not getting paid enough. They said, "Oh, that's impossible, because the state decides how much a worker is going to get paid, and they believe in the worker."

HOW "LIBERALS" STAND—

Q How do you account for the fact that so many people in America who call themselves "liberals" are so enthusiastic about Russian things and want us to recognize them and play ball with them? Why, if all this ideological thing is contrary to true liberalism, why is there such a sympathy for them?

A I think the same groups have made mistakes before.

Q It seems to me everything you have said would be anathema to any real "liberal"—

A That is what I can't understand either.

Q Take Justice Douglas—were his views and yours the same?

A I have the greatest admiration for Justice Douglas—I would not presume to speak for him.

Q Did they make a great many concessions to you over there?

A Some concessions, at least over the old policies—the fact that we are allowed to travel in Central Asia at all, and, in addition, I think they showed us things and allowed us to do things they wouldn't have permitted a year ago, but I don't think it adds up to a great deal.

Since they have changed their policy nobody has gained but them. The fact that Justice Douglas, five Senators and Bob Kennedy were able to go to Russia—what is that for America to get out of it?

For instance, you've got a Government in Burma which is trying to exist, and we might disagree with some parts of it, but it's a democratic Government that is trying to exist. And you've got a Cominform that is trying to destroy it.

Why don't they announce they are going to withdraw support from Communist organizations in India, Burma or Malaya, or even Italy, or France or this country? Why don't they actually come through and withdraw support and stop supplying money to their forces within the countries that are trying to overthrow the local governments?

(Continued on page 142)

... "We have contributed to Russia's military strength"

How about withdrawing their troops from Poland or Eastern Europe, allowing the unification of Germany, or giving their independence back to the people of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania?

Let's have something like that. Or let's allow complete arms inspection. I think they should make some definite contribution other than tipping their hat and smiling.

Q Were you impressed by the strength of Russia?

A Of course, they have terrific numbers and the whole state is controlled by five or six people that can decide the future overnight or in a minute, and that gives them power.

Q Other visitors come back and say they get a feeling of power or strength in Russia—

A I don't know what they mean by that. I think the Russians unquestionably have a strong Army. They have sacrificed a lot in order to build their military forces, their tanks and planes. However, we have contributed to their military strength in the past. We went through the steel plant in Novosibirsk, and most of the machinery in the plant was British and American. They were making boring machines and presses. It is now a question whether through relaxing our law requiring a list of strategic goods we will help them again.

Q Was what you saw Lend-Lease stuff?

A No, they were mostly sold to the Russians during the 1930s. As another example, it was an American engineer, as I understand it, who built the Dnieper Dam. Maybe we are going to go through all that again and maybe overnight they are going to decide they don't like us any more—and then where are we? We all want peaceful coexistence, but if we militarily weaken ourselves and strengthen them during this period, in a short time we will have neither peace nor coexistence.

Q What impression did you get in Moscow when you were there? Is there about to be any election campaign over there?

A No, they are not out campaigning. Of course, you read in books about the press being controlled and thought being controlled. But it really shocked me, talking to heads of universities and having them tell us that there is no reason to have debates in schools about Government policies, i.e., whether it is good for the Russians to be in the United Nations or whether they did well in Geneva, or anything like that, because what the Government says is right—and there will not be any opposition to what is right—only unanimity, which is what they said they have in Russia.

Q Is it a military system, essentially?

A Yes.

Q They're strong for harmony?

A Yes, and they don't have students who believe in God, because religion, as a university president told us, is for backward people, and students shouldn't be backward.

HATRED FOR RUSSIANS—

Q Do you have a feeling that, if you walked in with your own interpreter, people whom you met in Central Asia might talk if they were sure they could talk freely?

A Yes. The basis for my thinking is that the area was intensely religious 30 years ago, and the Russians have undoubtedly incurred deep hatred from the local people for their attempt to destroy their religious feelings, as well as for the suffering that they have caused in imposing their system on the local inhabitants.

Q Did you have conversations with many people?

A We spoke to people on farms, in factories, we had several street conferences, we spoke to teachers and judges. We attended a lot of trials—we were both interested in court procedure.

Q How are the trials?

A It is an entirely different system, of course, than we have. There is no jury, for one thing. It is a far looser system. There are no rules of evidence as we know them.

Q A man is guilty until he is proved innocent?

A I don't know, but three people sit in judgment on the average case. I think they try to do what is right. Admittedly, it is a very loose procedure. There doesn't seem to be any rule prohibiting the admission of hearsay evidence, for instance. The three judges—the chief judge being a lawyer and the other two may or may not be—just try to make a determination of what is right and what is wrong based on all the facts that are presented to them.

If nothing else, however, the lack of rules of evidence would make their system completely unacceptable to us in that a defendant would not know what to expect and the loose procedure leaves the door open to corruption.

Q Have the people been trained in the law?

A Yes. However, there is far less emphasis on that. At Novosibirsk, which has a population of over 900,000, there are about 50 lawyers. So there is far less emphasis on law.

WHERE ALL IS "PERFECT"—

Q Are there many crimes?

A They claim that there are not.

Another thing that strikes you, of course, is that everything is so "perfect" in Russia. They claim they have no juvenile delinquency because the families bring up their children so well; that their criminal courts are being dissolved because there is no crime. And, of course, that is not correct because they gave amnesty two years ago to all criminals and they have had a tremendous problem with them since then. They say there are no automobile accidents because everybody drives well. The reason everybody drives well, it was explained to us, is because all drivers in Russia are "disciplined." Personally, I never had such harrowing drives.

Q Who takes over when a man shoots someone? Do the local police move in? If it is a military area does the military take over?

A The judges in Baku said they don't have any problems really like that—that the worst things they had was jealousy and some women quarreling. But, where they do, the militiamen—since the Revolution they call policemen militiamen—make the arrest. The military have jurisdiction in military areas and, also, most importantly in certain political crimes. For instance, it was a military court that tried Beria [Lavrenti P. Beria, former head of secret police, executed in 1953].

Q Did you ask about the writ of habeas corpus?

A Yes. Only one out of the approximately 30 judges we talked to had heard of habeas corpus. But in fairness I might add they don't have habeas corpus in most of the European countries. The Russians have rules that an individual is to be brought to trial within 20 days, and that period can be extended, under certain circumstances, for 5 or 10 more days. However—and this is the problem in Russian justice—

(Continued on page 144)

... "Quite a bit of drunkenness in Central Asia, in Moscow"

exceptions can be made in political trials for political crimes, and if it is to the interest of the state you have exceptions. If it is a political trial it goes before a military or special court.

"We are going through a period of coexistence, and it seems to me we ought to examine carefully and continuously the Soviet system of government and justice so we know the type of people with whom we are dealing. A trial is supposed to be public, but, in political cases, exceptions can also be made to that. This was the procedure followed during the vast majority of the purge trials of the 1930s—which, except for a very few, were conducted in secret. The trials of Beria and his assistants are more recent examples of secret trials.

Another example, they have a procedure—and there is talk now of repealing it—that a board of the Minister of the Interior, who runs the secret police, can sentence a man to five years in a labor camp. He serves his five years and then comes and says, "I want to get out now, my five years are up." They can then say the board has met again and decided he should have his sentence extended another 10 years. Back he goes, without a trial, and that's the end of it.

Q Don't they have to keep their labor force up in their prison camps?

A Yes, but I think they can keep their labor force up in other ways also. You see these women who are doing heavy manual work in the towns and cities and just getting enough to keep alive—it's not much different from being in a labor camp.

"EVERYBODY IS TO WORK"—

Q Where do they get them from?

A It is just this propaganda that everybody is to work. If you have children, they have these nurseries, and the child is taken at two months and put in a nursery, and I am sure they have very good care. However, the system is that everybody is to work for the state. The state is all—the individual, the family, is secondary.

These nurseries permit the mother to go out and work for the state. We saw women working in a steel plant, operating cranes, and working on heavy construction jobs. The Russians are constructing a large bridge at Novosibirsk, and I have pictures of these women lifting these heavy beams and other materials.

Q How about child labor?

A Some of the people in these plants looked awfully young, and we asked about that. They said they don't take them under 16 years of age except under exceptional circumstances, and then only for a half day. In one plant they told us they took them at 14.

Q Did you go into any of the jails?

A No.

Q Are there any jails?

A I've seen jails—we passed them. In addition, in Ashkhabad we saw a building being constructed and around it was all this barbed wire, and watch towers. We asked what it was, and they said it was "just some work going on there."

We asked if it was a prison, and they said, "No." So we asked why there was barbed wire, and they finally said, "We had some prisoners there a year or a year and a half ago, but they've gone."

I question the accuracy of that answer because, first, the

buildings were not far along in construction and, second, because Ashkhabad is still a closed city and it could well be closed because of the presence of slave labor. I wouldn't be surprised if they still have either prison or slave labor working there.

Q What do you mean by "closed" cities?

A Where foreigners weren't allowed.

Q Did you see much drunkenness on the streets?

A We saw quite a bit of it in Central Asia. Our guide spoke to us of it as a problem and asked us if we were having the same difficulty in the United States.

Q In Moscow they say you never see it—

A We saw quite a bit of it.

Q How are the people clothed—Eastern or Western?

A Both.

Q What kind of hospital facilities do they have in that area?

A They seemed very good, very clean. They have a great number of doctors, mostly women. They have some wonderful theaters in that area and very good shows—operas, some ballet. We visited a number of the libraries. They have a large number of books. They don't lend them out as we do in this country. You go into the library and read. They have only a small number of books which are available for loan.

Q Do people work every day?

A Six days a week for eight hours.

Q What do they do with their day off?

A That I don't know. They do go to the theater—it is very popular. Sports are extremely popular, basketball particularly.

Q Are there American movies?

A I didn't see any, although some people in Moscow asked us what Deanna Durbin was doing, and also about Tarzan.

Q Is Sunday the day off?

A Not always. They work on Sundays in some of the factories.

Q What other sports do they have besides basketball?

A They have what we call soccer and they call football, and it is also very popular. We saw a lot of small basketball courts.

Q Did you go to people's homes?

A Yes.

Q Were they curious about you?

A Yes, the people in stores and in the streets gathered around and sometimes asked questions.

PEOPLE WERE FRIENDLY—

Q Were they friendly?

A Yes.

The people were all very friendly. Some of the officials and some of the members of the Communist Party on occasion were not very friendly. But when we went into the farm areas—it makes me feel their intense propaganda doesn't get through as effectively as it might, because, if they had been told for 9 or 10 years that we were really their enemies and believed it, I don't think they could turn that off and have people as genuinely friendly as they were.

Another thing, we used to ask in each place what they most disliked about the United States, and what they most liked, and invariably the answer to the thing that they liked the most was our mechanical ability and know-how.

(Continued on page 146)

Interview

... "Average local person lives in a mud hut"

Q They still like our machinery?

A They still feel we could teach them. They were very excited about the agricultural delegation, and all of them admitted that they were going to get far more out of exchange [of visits by U. S. and Soviet farm experts] than we, because we were also so far advanced in agriculture.

Q What do they dislike about us?

A The question that was most frequently raised was about the Negroes and whether they were mistreated and discriminated against, segregated and lynched.

Q How did they know we have any Negroes?

A I expect they have been told about them by the radio and the press. That was the most frequent criticism and question. Because of the popularity of basketball and the fact that this question has been raised, I think it would be a wonderful thing if the Harlem Globetrotters [Negro professional basketball team] would consider going to Russia and touring the country for a month or so as they have done in the Middle East and other areas of the world. However, I doubt if the Russians would give them permission, as that would help the U. S.

Q What about typical home life in Central Asia?

A The average local person lives in a mud hut, with a mud floor. The homes of the Russians in the area are better.

FOR WATER: A DITCH—

Q One family?

A Often, families share homes or apartments. Regarding sanitation, in Samarkand the local people get their water out of a ditch that flows by the edge of the road—as they do in Teheran and a number of other cities in the Middle East. In Samarkand they get their water from a pump. Most of the people in houses and apartments have to rely on outdoor sanitation facilities. Some of the farmhouses are nice, however. The houses for the people from the factories are small—the rent is very little, but the rooms are very small.

Q Were they typical?

A I am sure we were shown only the best farms and only the best apartments and only the best factories. However, we could see the more typical houses, walking along the streets. They did have some heat in the homes we went to.

Q The American farmer we interviewed here after he returned from Russia said his impression was that the people were much happier than he had thought they would be, but he thought this was because, though things for them compared to things for our people were not nearly as good, they were much better compared to what they had had—

A I agree. And I think a lot of the areas are far better off than the comparable areas in the Middle East.

Q The reason the American farmers were impressed was because the situation wasn't as bad as they thought it would be—not because it compared favorably to ours—

A There is absolutely no comparison to anything we have in this country—either from a material or a spiritual point of view. Things we take for granted in the United States just don't exist there.

Q Such as what?

A Well, for instance, if you don't like working here, you can get up and walk downstairs and that's the end of it, or if you want to take a train and go to Boston, you can get on the train and go to Boston. You don't have to check with anybody.

If you are accused of a crime in America, you are accused and tried in public, and your relatives and friends will be there, and there is going to be a newspaper there and if they don't like the way you are treated something will be done about it. I think that we take such things for granted. Many of the leaders of Asia chide the United States for being so materialistic—I think our problem is that we take the rights that we have in this country for granted and we don't talk about them.

Q We are supposed to be losing all those rights—do you think we are?

A I don't agree with that, either.

Q How long were you in Moscow?

A About five or six days.

Q Did you get a different feeling about Moscow than you had about the other parts of Russia?

A I think they are better off in Moscow than they were in some of the Central Asian and Siberian cities. The thing that struck me, however: I went to Warsaw, and I think Warsaw is 100 per cent better off than any place I saw in Russia.

Q Better than Moscow?

A Yes, the people are far better dressed, there is a much brighter appearance, and the big thing is that the Polish people are a stubborn people. They have a natural dislike for the Russians, and the Communists are having a hard time getting through a large number of their theories. For instance, you can't get into a church on Sunday because they are so crowded. People who never went to church before are now going to church.

Q Are there any Jewish colonies in the Siberian area?

A Not that we visited. We asked to visit the synagogue in Samarkand, which we were there, and were told that there wasn't one. When we got to Moscow, the rabbi there said that there was a synagogue in Stalinabad, so once again we were given wrong information.

RUSSIA? "I HAD ENOUGH"—

Q Would you like to go back to Russia again?

A I had enough of it.

Q Would you like to live there?

A No. I am a firm believer in the capitalistic system.

Q You think with all our troubles and all our friction and all our defects, we may be better off than they are?

A I think anybody who doesn't think so should take a trip there.

I am hopeful, like everybody in the world, that what happened at the Geneva Conference and what will happen at the meetings of the four Foreign Ministers will mean peace for us all. However, on the basis of what I saw and learned in Russia, I am very distrustful that we will get anything other than smiles.

We are dealing with a Government to whom God, the family or the individual means nothing and whose practice it has been in the past to make promises and treaties to serve their purposes and to break them when it has been to their advantage. It can only be suicidal for us during this period on the basis of smiles to strengthen Russia and weaken ourselves.

For impressions of thirteen Congressmen who have just completed visits to Russia, see page 100.

4

E 88565

November 4, 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. BOARDMAN
MR. BELMONT
MR. NICHOLS

106-1

Yesterday, I saw Mr. Robert Francis Kennedy, Chief Counsel for the Senate Investigations Subcommittee, who last summer together with Mr. Justice Douglas, of the United States Supreme Court, made a rather extended tour in Soviet Russia.

Mr. Kennedy discussed with me generally some of the impressions he obtained, most of which are covered in detail in the interview which Mr. Kennedy gave to the U.S. News and World Report appearing in its issue of October 21, 1955.

" It is quite obvious that Mr. Kennedy has returned from Russia with a rather dim impression of its economy and alleged liberties."

Very truly yours,

J.E.H.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Sizoo _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

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RECORDED - 87
EX-125

77-54387-25

NOV 9 1955

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 4:50 PM
DATE 11/4/55
BY [Signature]

NOV 7 1955

NOV 16 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: April 26, 1956

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
MEETING WITH THE DIRECTOR

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Sizoo _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

PURPOSE:

To furnish identifying data concerning Robert Francis Kennedy, Chief Counsel *SUMMARY* for the Senate Investigations Subcommittee, who has requested to see the Director.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Born November 20, 1925, Boston, Massachusetts. Attended Harvard and University of Virginia Law School. Son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former Ambassador to England, and brother of Senator John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.).

PREVIOUS MEMORANDA:

Memoranda were previously prepared re Kennedy dated July 20 and November 1, 1955, which are attached. In March, 1954, you talked with Kennedy concerning testimony in the Annie Lee Moss case and the Director noted, "The attitude of Kennedy in this matter clearly shows need for absolute circumspection in any conversation with him." (121-2900-39)

On May 13, 1955, Kennedy was guest on Dave Garroway's television program and was questioned concerning the Dr. John Peters case. His comments concerning FBI were favorable. (121-4200-167)

Kennedy was contacted by Bureau Agents regarding the testimony of Harry Lev before Kennedy's Subcommittee in connection with the manufacture of military hats and caps. Kennedy was uncooperative and advised he would prefer waiting until testimony was completed. The Director noted, in part, "Kennedy was completely uncooperative until after he had squeezed all the publicity out of the matter he could." (46-23395-107)

Enclosures (2)

cc - Mr. Holloman
cc - Mr. Nichols

FJH:grs
(7)

51 MAY 17 1956

RECORDED-9

INDEXED-9

77-51387-26

5 MAY 9 1956

*memo received Tolson
Boardman
Belmont
5-3-56
JFH:llk*

CRIMINAL DIVISION

RK 76

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

April 26, 1956

70 On November 4, 1955, the Director met with Kennedy who discussed some of his impressions regarding his trip to Russia, most of which were covered in detail in the interview in the U. S. News & World Report, appearing in the October 21, 1955, issue. The Director pointed out it was obvious Kennedy returned from Russia with a rather dim impression of its economy and alleged liberties. (77-51387-25)

Kennedy, as Chief Counsel for Senate Committee on Government Operations, sent a letter to the Bureau dated December 20, 1955, requesting examination of two documents to determine whether they were prepared on the same typewriter. One document dated June 27, 1955, was on the letterhead of A. C. Clothing Manufacturing Company, Atlantic City, New Jersey, signed by Herman P. Kravitz, which was addressed to Kennedy. Letter advised Kennedy that no improper demands had been made by personnel of A. C. Clothing Manufacturing Company for the award of contracts. The other document was a typewritten note with wording similar to letter signed by Kravitz; however, the second document had been torn into several pieces giving the appearance it had been retrieved from a wastebasket. Laboratory examination revealed both documents were prepared on same typewriter. Bufiles reflect Herman Kravitz was found guilty in U. S. District Court, New York City, December 17, 1954, for embezzlement of Government property and sentenced to pay a \$5,000 fine. Bufiles also reflect Kravitz is listed as an individual who is prohibited from entering into contractual relationship with the Army. (95-61979-2)

Kravitz is currently a witness before Kennedy's Committee.
(Washington Post and Times Herald 4/25/56)

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

✓

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Just a note to tell you
how much I admire your very
fine work in the Binch, Neunberg and
Revel cases. You have established a
record of which the whole country
is very proud.

I hope the United States continues
to enjoy your leadership for a long
Bob Kennedy

file 6-1

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RECORDED - 94

EX - 134

77-51387-27

25 SEP 11 1956

signed copy

81

78

period of time.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Kennedy

82

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Just a note to tell you how much I
admire your very fine work in the
Brinks, Weinberg and Reisel cases.
You have established a record of
which the whole country is very
proud.

I hope the United States continues to enjoy your
leadership for a long period of time.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Bob Kennedy

COPY:hmb

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nichols *[initials]*
- Mr. Boardman _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Mason _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Parsons _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tamm _____
- Mr. Jones *[initials]*
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy *[initials]*

*noml
ack 9/7/56
JRH*

9/1/56

September 7, 1956

JW 6-1

77-51387-27

RECORDED - 94
EX - 134

Mr. Robert F. Kennedy
Chief Counsel
Investigations Subcommittee
Room 109
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

Many thanks for your thoughtful note postmarked August 31, 1956, and for your commendatory remarks concerning this Bureau's work in connection with the Brink's, Weinberger and Riesel cases.

Your good words are deeply appreciated and most encouraging.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 12
SEP 7 1956
COMM-FBI

RECEIVED READING ROOM
FBI
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE
SEP 7 4 29 PM '56

NOTE: There has been no prior correspondence but he met the Director 11/4/55. The Director has instructed that absolute circumspection be utilized in any conversations with Kennedy. He has reportedly been somewhat uncooperative in the past.

- Tolson _____
- Nichols _____
- Boardman _____
- Belmont _____
- Mason _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Nease _____
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- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

JRH:lmh
(3)

lmh

Hoover

JRH

SEP 7 1956
FBI

71 SEP 11 1956

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Boardman

DATE: September 11, 1956

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: SENATOR JOHN L. McCLELLAN AND
SENATE COMMITTEE COUNSEL ROBERT F. KENNEDY

| | |
|------------|-------|
| Tolson | _____ |
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| Tele. Room | _____ |
| Holloman | _____ |
| Gandy | _____ |

Senator McClellan, Chairman, and Robert F. Kennedy, Counsel, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Senate Government Operations Committee, are planning to call at the Bureau today.

RC-1-

CURRENT SENATE LOBBYING HEARINGS

Senator McClellan and Kennedy may be calling with relation to the current hearings being conducted by the Senate Lobby Investigating Committee. These hearings have disclosed that salesmen for the Standard Oil Company of Indiana paid for telegrams sent to Senator Edward Thye (R.-Minn.) urging him to vote for the Natural Gas Bill. Some of these telegrams were reportedly sent without the authorization of the individuals whose names were signed thereto. These telegrams have been characterized as "forged" by Senator McClellan who is quoted in the Washington Post of 9/11/56, to the effect that he did not know whether any law had been broken but that the hearings might prove a need for new legislation. Senator McClellan is Chairman of the Senate Lobby Investigating Committee.

On the basis of an opinion furnished the Bureau by the Criminal Division in 1954 as to the applicability of the Lobbying Statute, it would appear that the transmission of the telegrams under the circumstances outlined above would not constitute a violation of this Act. The Criminal Division has indicated this statute is limited to persons who solicit, collect or receive contributions of money or other thing of value to influence the passage or defeat of legislation by Congress.

On the basis of the information developed during the current hearings as published in the paper (which is the only information the Bureau has concerning the hearings) it would not appear that any Federal violation within the Bureau's jurisdiction is involved in connection with the sending of these telegrams to Senator Thye. We would, of course, have to secure a definite legal opinion from the Department should any specific facts be made available to us. 77-57387-1

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Memorandum to Mr. Boardman

PRIOR INVESTIGATION OF CONTRIBUTION
FOR SENATOR FRANCIS CASE (R.-S.D.)

Investigation was instituted 2/4/56, at the Department's request following a disclosure by Senator Francis Case who reported that John M. Neff had made a \$2500 campaign contribution for Case immediately preceding the Senate vote on the Natural Gas Bill.

Following our investigation a Federal Grand Jury in the District of Columbia returned a six-count indictment on 7/24/56, charging Neff, Elmer Patman, attorney-lobbyist for the Superior Oil Company, and the Superior Oil Company itself with violations of Bribery, Conspiracy and Lobbying Statutes. Trial set for 11/19/56.

All investigation in this case has been completed; however, by memorandum dated 8/2/56, the Criminal Division requested the Bureau to contact the Senate Lobby Investigating Committee and secure copies of question and answer interviews conducted by members of the George Select Committee with Elmer Patman, John M. Neff and Howard Keck, President of the Superior Oil Company. The Criminal Division also requested that we secure copies of any memoranda prepared with reference to the interviews of these three individuals. It is noted the George Select Committee conducted the initial inquiry concerning the contribution to Senator Case; this Committee is no longer in existence and its records have been turned over to its successor, the Senate Lobby Investigating Committee.

Repeated efforts by the Washington Field Office to secure the documents requested by the Criminal Division have been unsuccessful inasmuch as Committee representatives have indicated the Department's request could not be complied with until it was passed upon by Senator McClellan who was away from Washington for an extended period.

Paul Kamerick, Chief Investigator for the Lobby Committee, telephonically advised the Washington Field Office this morning that with relation to the Department's request Senator McClellan advised this morning that he had checked with the Senate Parliamentarian who ruled that the Department's request could be complied with only after a resolution had been passed by the Senate authorizing it. The Senate, of course, will not be in session until January and the trial of this case is tentatively scheduled for 11/19/56. We are, of course, furnishing to the Criminal Division the information received this morning in this regard.

Memorandum to Mr. Boardman

While the Lobby Investigating Committee is a special committee, it is headed by Senator McClellan who is also Chairman of the Government Operations Committee. Robert Kennedy is Counsel for the Government Operations Committee but has no known connection with the Lobby Investigating Committee, whose General Counsel is George M. Fay.

It is noted our investigation in the Neff case did not concern itself in any way with the alleged "forged" telegrams mentioned above.

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(JFK)

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V

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols *my*

DATE: September 11, 1956

FROM : M. A. Jones *M.A.J.*

SUBJECT: SENATOR JOHN LITTLE MCCLELLAN
(DEMOCRAT - ARKANSAS)
ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY
MEETING WITH THE DIRECTOR
SEPTEMBER 11, 1956

Tolson _____
Nichols _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mason _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Nease _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

PURPOSE:

RC6-

To set forth identifying data concerning McClellan and Kennedy who are scheduled to meet with the Director this afternoon, September 11, 1956

Attached is a brief memorandum concerning Kennedy and a summary concerning McClellan prepared January 7, 1955. The following is pertinent information concerning McClellan since the date of the attached summary:

In January, 1956, a name check was conducted for Senator McClellan on individual being considered for the staff of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. (123-5144-4)

In February, 1956, Mr. Nichols furnished background/concerning one [redacted] to McClellan *67C*

Fulton Lewis, Jr., on February 23, 1956, reported that McClellan had been appointed to the Senate Investigating Committee to Investigate Lobbying. (62-102987-2)

In March, 1956, McClellan sent to the Director the report of the Committee on Government Operations entitled "Organization of Federal Executive Departments and Agencies" together with an accompanying chart. (62-98810-731)

Memo from Mr. Olney to the Director dated 6-25-56 enclosed a letter from the Department to McClellan in his capacity as Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate Political Activities, Lobbying, and Campaign Contributions. (52-67737-11) *SEP 14 1956*

The Investigative Division is preparing a separate memorandum concerning the specific matter McClellan and Kennedy desire to discuss with the Director

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

cc - Mr. Nichols
cc - Mr. Holloman
cc - Mr. Tolson

(7) Enclosures *2*
HEH:pac

filed in 94-4-6127-14

*RECORDED
SERIAL 115
with [unclear]*

*RECORDED - 115 115
77-51387-28
105-31571-19*

SEP 14 1956

86

September 11, 1956

Re: ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PURPOSE

To furnish brief identifying data concerning Kennedy, Chief Counsel for the Senate Investigations Subcommittee, who, along with Senator John McClellan, may see the Director on this afternoon, September 11, 1956.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Summary

Robert Francis Kennedy was born 11-20-25 at Boston, Massachusetts. He attended Harvard University and the University of Virginia Law School. He is the son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former ambassador to England, and the brother of Senator John F. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts.

PREVIOUS CONTACTS WITH THE DIRECTOR:

Kennedy talked with the Director apparently on personal matters on January 28, 1954, and February 15, 1954. He also met with the Director on 11-3-55 and discussed his extended tour of Russia which he had made with Mr. Justice Douglas the previous summer. The Director noted, "It is quite obvious that Mr. Kennedy has returned from Russia with a rather dim impression of its economy and alleged liberties."

Kennedy also met with the Director on 4-26-56 and discussed the pending appearance of Murray Chotiner. Chotiner was the campaign manager for Vice President Nixon in the 1952 elections, and Kennedy's committee was considering calling Chotiner as a witness. Kennedy also inquired of the Director as to whether the time had come to bring Alger Hiss before his committee. The Director advised Kennedy that before any such move was made it should be given very careful study and evaluation and thorough research should be done beforehand.

BUREAU INVESTIGATION OF KENNEDY:

In September, 1951, the Bureau conducted a Departmental applicant investigation of Kennedy in connection with a position as attorney in the Criminal Division. The investigation was favorable and individuals contacted recommended him highly.

[REDACTED]

Classified by 6616
Exempt from GDS, Category 2-3
Date of Declassification Indefinite 3/1/78
9/5

77-51387-28

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MISCELLANEOUS:

Former Assistant to the Director L.B.
(Mr. Nichols)
In March, 1954, you talked with Kennedy concerning testimony in the Annie Lee Moss case and the Director noted, "The attitude of Kennedy in this matter clearly shows need for absolute circumspection in any conversation with him." (121-2900-39)

On May 13, 1955, Kennedy was guest on Dave Garroway's television program and was questioned concerning the Dr. John Peters case. His comments concerning FBI were favorable. (121-4200-167)

Kennedy was contacted by Bureau Agents regarding the testimony of Harry Lev before Kennedy's Subcommittee in connection with the manufacture of military hats and caps. Kennedy was uncooperative and advised he would prefer waiting until testimony was completed. The Director noted, in part, "Kennedy was completely uncooperative until after he had squeezed all the publicity out of the matter he could." (46-23395-107)

Kennedy, as Chief Counsel for Senate Committee on Government Operations, sent a letter to the Bureau dated December 20, 1955, requesting examination of two documents to determine whether they were prepared on the same typewriter. One document dated June 27, 1955, was on the letterhead of A. C. Clothing Manufacturing Company, Atlantic City, New Jersey, signed by Herman P. Kravitz, which was addressed to Kennedy. Letter advised Kennedy that no improper demands had been made by personnel of A. C. Clothing Manufacturing Company for the award of contracts. The other document was a typewritten note with wording similar to letter signed by Kravitz; however, the second document had been torn into several pieces giving the appearance it had been retrieved from a wastebasket. Laboratory examination revealed both documents were prepared on same typewriter. Bufiles reflect Herman Kravits was found guilty in U. S. District Court, New York City, December 17, 1954, for embezzlement of Government property and sentenced to pay a \$5,000 fine. Bufiles also reflect Kravitz is listed as an individual who is prohibited from entering into contractual relationship with the Army. (95-61979-2)

In January, 1956, Kennedy called the Bureau and expressed concern that a Bureau official had contacted Minority Counsel Juliana rather than himself concerning a matter of official business. The Director stated as follows: "I think Kennedy is basically right. H."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Bulet of 9-7-56 to Kennedy expressed the Director's thanks for Kennedy's note of 8-31-56 and his commendatory remarks regarding the Bureau's work in connection with the Brink's, Weinberger, and Riesel cases.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deleted under exemption(s) b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
77-51387 - Not recorded mail dated 2/6/57

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *RV*

DATE: March 5, 1957

FROM : C. A. Evans *E*

SUBJECT: ROBERT F. KENNEDY, CHIEF COUNSEL,
SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON IMPROPER
ACTIVITIES IN THE LABOR OR MANAGEMENT FIELD

- Tolson _____
- Nichols _____
- Boardman _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- Nease _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

mc

Kennedy advised me that he had received a first edition of the FBI Story as a birthday present last fall. He said it was a present which he greatly appreciated receiving but that he would cherish it even more if the Director would autograph it for him.

Kennedy gave me his copy of the book and requested I ask the Director to autograph it.

1 - Crime Records Section

77-51387-29

~~77-51387-13~~

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(3)

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*Autograph book card
3-5-57
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*Delivered to folder EX-127
in Crime Records
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*Ret'd to
Kennedy
3/6/57
E*

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SERIALIZATION.

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C

gnh

MAY 20 1957

April 22, 1958

PERSONAL

Mr. Robert F. Kennedy
Chief Counsel
Select Committee on Improper Activities
in the Labor or Management Field
U. S. Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob: *Kennedy*

I have just learned that you were the recipient of
the 1958 Lantern Award, and I wanted to drop you this note to
extend my heartiest congratulations. I was certainly pleased
that you were afforded this recognition which is richly deserved.

Sincerely,

Edgar

1 - Boston(Reurlet 1-27-58)

NOTE: The fact that Robert F. Kennedy received the Lantern Award
was learned through a pretext call to Senator John F. Kennedy's office
on 4-22-58.

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Nease
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- Clayton
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Miss Gandy

LH:jcs
(4)

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APR 23 1958
COMM-FBI

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FBI

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 13, 1958

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| Mr. Tolson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Boardman | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Belmont | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Mohr | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Nease | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Parsons | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Rosen | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Tamm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Trotter | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Clayton | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tele. Room | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mr. Holloman | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Miss Gandy | <input type="checkbox"/> |

[Handwritten signature]

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you very much for your kind note regarding the Lamp Award in Boston.

I was highly honored - particularly because I had the privilege of following you.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]
Robert F. Kennedy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.