

JIMMY CARTER LIBRARY
MANDATORY REVIEW
CASE # NLC 99-45
DOCUMENT # 4

9 June 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Possible Additional Agency Support Furnished Howard Hunt

1. We have reported earlier an out-of-channel request by Howard Hunt for a name trace in December 1971 on a Costa Rican. This was put back in channels by forwarding the name trace report to [redacted] the [redacted] senior Agency officer with the NSC Staff in EOB.

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

2. [redacted] a memorandum dated 31 May 1973 (received in O/IG on 6 June) stating that Howard Hunt,

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

"submitted various names for Headquarters traces of certain Latin Americans, not in a sealed envelope. This was handled orally and by telephone I advised the chief of the appropriate division that they were being forwarded and to consult with the DDP about the propriety of responding. I also telephoned the DDP. I then wrote my own memo to General HAIG calling his attention to the fact that an individual--I named HUNT--was tracing foreign nationals without reference to the NSC Staff."

Haig is reported [redacted] as returning the memorandum with the word "thanks" noted on its face.

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

3. We have spoken with [redacted] the NSC Staff, who states (in conversations on 6 and 7 June) that it was not customary [redacted] to keep records of this sort of transaction, and that a search of the files does not disclose a copy of the memorandum to General Haig. Mrs. Evelyn De Pue [redacted] secretary at the time [redacted]

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

[redacted] reported a memorandum from Chief, WH Division, in December 1971 forwarding [redacted] a name trace on a Costa Rican (the one noted above) for Hunt. No other such records were found.

COPY CARTER LIBRARY

~~SECRET~~

SEARCHED INDEXED BY: 1319C

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

JUN 5 1997

4. [REDACTED] is now on TDY at Headquarters and was interviewed (7 June by telephone and 8 June in person). He first recalled that "shortly after" Hunt was appointed to the White House--he thinks before the plumber unit was formed, although this is ex post facto reconstruction--Hunt made a request for name traces on Latin Americans. He thinks this involved Guatemalans and Costa Ricans. I pointed out that Hunt's White House appointment was 6 July 1971. [REDACTED] he placed the time the last couple of months of 1971 or the first month of 1972. He cannot recall how many name traces were involved, but is certain that the total was more than one--"just a few; five, three, two or four." He enclosed Hunt's request in an envelope and forwarded it with a note that someone had best check with Tom Karamessines as Hunt was no longer an Agency employee. [REDACTED] he didn't know what Hunt was doing or what he had in mind, and was concerned that Hunt might make Agency Secret name trace material available to outsiders. [REDACTED] office routinely handled a low volume of name trace requests from the NSC Staff, but always in such instances he knew who it was for and how it was to be used.

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

5. [REDACTED] his office had little other contact with Hunt. He saw him in the elevator in EOB once or twice, but never had occasion to discuss business matters. Once someone phoned asking for Hunt's telephone extension (which was difficult to get, as the White House switchboard did not give out numbers freely). Out of curiosity he also got Hunt's room number and wandered down (he recalls it as Room 106 EOB) where he found a sign on the door saying "Plumber," very much as it might have said "Janitor." He attached no significance to it at the time, the term "Plumber" meaning nothing to him.

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

6. On one occasion [REDACTED] to Blues Alley, and saw Hunt there with some well-to-do Californians. He thought Hunt had some association with the place as a public relations man, although he thinks it would have to be a very small account. I told him of Hunt's reported interest in jazz, [REDACTED]

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

~~SECRET~~

7. Mr. Broe (then Chief, WH Division) has no recollection of any name traces handled for Hunt other than the one forwarded over his (Broe's) name on 13 December 1971. He recalls discussing that with his deputy, [REDACTED] who has checked the records of WH and has found no other such records. At this time it seems unlikely that we will answer the questions this presents. Was Hunt's out-of-channel request (which WH put back in channel) the one [REDACTED] recalls, with embellishments? Or did Hunt make additional requests, through channels, that were not serviced? We have the one recorded name trace, on a Costa Rican, and no others.

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

S. D. Breckinridge
S. D. Breckinridge

~~SECRET~~