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3 November 1960

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Kimsey, Herman Edward

 APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1993
 CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

1. This memorandum is for information only.
2. This memorandum pertains to anonymous allegations made against Herman Edward Kimsey, a GS-13 employee assigned to the Technical Services Division.
3. On 26 September 1960, we were advised by the National Security Agency of the receipt of anonymous letters by Representative Paul J. Kilday, Chairman of the Armed Services Sub-Committee on Security, and the Honorable James H. Douglas, Deputy Director of Defense, alleging the "next two NSA buddies to defect will be Herman Kimsey and Karl Yenser". Herbert Karl Yenser is an employee of the Security Office of the National Security Agency while Herman Edward Kimsey is the chief of a section in the Technical Services Division of CIA. *Secretary*
4. The Office of Security immediately initiated an investigation concerning Kimsey, reviewing all information at hand and interviewing him extensively. Our employee is a 43 year old unmarried male, the Chief of the Analysis and Research Section, Graphic Arts Reproductions Branch, Technical Services Division. He entered on duty with this Agency on 23 March 1953, after service in the U. S. Army from 1950 to 1953 with assignments in the Counter-Intelligence Corps.
5. In our action, close coordination was maintained with NSA to compare data obtained from our respective employees relating to their backgrounds and personal contacts. We learned both are members of the Tennessee Walking Horse Association and officials of the American Walking Horse Association, both have acted as judges at various horse shows. Further, both have been closely concerned in the official position of the latter association opposing inhumane methods of training show horses, have been responsible

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for the disqualification of various entries and have been involved with court actions stemming from these matters. We are aware there have been innumerable bickerings and rivalries, dissident groupings and no small amount of animosity engendered by activities in these fields. It is our belief such elements could well have resulted in personal attacks being levied against Kimsey and Yenser. Both have suggested persons they believe might have authored the anonymous letters and in each case, their "suspects" are persons associated with activities of the Walking Horse groups.

6. Kimsey and Yenser were requested to provide examples of correspondence from their "suspects" received by them and by the American Walking Horse Association of which Kimsey is the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Yenser, the President. These examples, together with the original of the letter sent to Representative Kilday and obtained by us from NSA, were submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for laboratory examination without positive results. Simultaneously, the person settled upon by Kimsey and Yenser as the principal "suspect" was made the subject of CIA investigative action to determine his background and whether or not he might have been in Nashville, Tennessee when the anonymous letters were mailed 21 September 1960. Inquiries in this regard are continuing as is action to obtain additional examples of correspondence prepared by the principal "suspect" and other persons who might have been responsible for the letters.

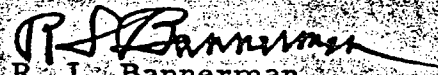
7. At the outset of our investigation an indication was received that our employee had some sort of a medical problem. The Medical Office and the Psychiatric Staff were found to have examined him on at least two occasions since his entry on duty in 1953. In our interview with Kimsey he revealed he had been undergoing psychiatric counseling for the past four years, a circumstance leading to an interview with the psychiatrist as a part of our investigation. Dr. Joseph L. Sheridan of Washington, D. C. advised that Kimsey is a perfectionist and has sought psychiatric aid for the purpose of improving himself. The psychiatrist further stated he has detected no indication that Kimsey has a serious problem and does not believe our employee is at all the type of person who might defect. The information received concerning the psychiatric factors has been discussed with the Medical Office.

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8. NSA has not conducted any active investigation beyond their interview of Yenser. On 24 October 1960 that agency replied to a query from Representative Kilday on the status of the case and identified Kimsey as an employee of CIA. Mr. John Warner of the Office of the General Counsel has been in touch with the staff of the Kilday Committee and believes a simple statement of our actions to date will satisfy that body. We propose Mr. Warner orally transmit such a statement as attached.

9. We are continuing our inquiries in an attempt to identify the author of the letter and will advise you of significant developments. Should other questions concerning this matter be directed from outside the Agency, it would be in order to state we have the fullest confidence in our employee.



R. L. Bannerman
Acting Director of Security

Attachment as stated

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