

~~SECRET~~

20 July 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Record

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

SUBJECT: Letter of Recommendation Written
by Mr. Helms to Robert R. Mullen
& Company for E. Howard Hunt

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

1. Mr. Robert R. Mullen of Robert R. Mullen & Company,
[redacted] Chief, CCS and the undersigned, case officer
for the company, met in a park near 20th & " H " Streets, Northwest,
Washington, D.C. on 20 July 1973, at 9:15 AM, to discuss several
matters relating to the company's past cooperation with the Agency.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

2. [redacted] recalled our meeting with Mr. Mullen
on 20 April 1973 when he informed Mr. Mullen that [redacted]
[redacted] would be given a meaningful Agency job in [redacted]
upon his return from [redacted] in June 1973. [redacted]
apologized for his inability to be present in a subsequent meeting on
4 June 1973 when the undersigned had to inform Mr. Mullen that the

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

[redacted] assignment for [redacted] had fallen through and that
[redacted] instead was to be terminated by the Agency.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

[redacted] began to explain the reasons for the change in plans and Mr. Mullen
interrupted to say that he completely understood why [redacted] had to
be terminated by the Agency and did not in any way hold [redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

[redacted] responsible for the termination nor did he doubt [redacted] veracity
or integrity. Mr. Mullen said that [redacted] had naturally been
disturbed and unhappy because of the termination, but Mr. Mullen had
reminded him that he had certain gains from his Agency assignment,
and particularly mentioned that [redacted] might still be in [redacted]
working at some unexciting job except for his Agency employment.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

[redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

~~SECRET~~

400

SECRET

3. Mr. Mullen then reported that he has postponed his vacation because of a new business opportunity involving the sale of freight cars worth \$135 million to the Yugoslav government. Mullen and Company's commission on this deal if it is consummated will be about \$400,000. Mr. Mullen said that he had yesterday received a telephone call from an official of the Pullman Company, which is to supply the freight cars, reporting that Mr. Stankovitz (phonetic) of the Yugoslav Embassy had contacted the Pullman Company. Mr. Stankovitz had told the Pullman Company official that he had heard rumors that Mullen and Company is involved with the CIA and that the whole deal would be off if this proved true. Mr. Mullen wondered whether there might be some leak within the Agency, but agreed with our comment that the Yugoslavs had probably read about Mullen's alleged association with the Agency in TIME Magazine because of Mullen and Company's employment of E. Howard Hunt.

4. [redacted] at this point mentioned the letter written by Mr. Helms on behalf of Mr. Hunt to Mullen and Company. Mr. Mullen said that Mr. Hunt, in addition to giving Mr. Mullen the above letter of recommendation, had also exhibited a copy of a letter of recommendation by Mr. Helms to -- Mr. Mullen thought -- Allied Chemical Company.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

5. Mr. Mullen readily agreed to make a copy of Mr. Helms' letter of recommendation available to the Agency. A letter was not written by Mr. Helms following Mr. Hunt's employment by Mullen and Company. Mr. Mullen recalled that at a function at the Kennedy Center he had seen Mr. Helms. They were not able to converse, but Mr. Helms had winked and given a hand signal to Mr. Mullen which Mr. Mullen interpreted as an approbation of Mullen and Company's hiring of Mr. Hunt. Mr. Mullen explained that his hiring of Mr. Hunt had been a rather natural one as Mr. Mullen knew both Howard and Dorothy Hunt in Paris from about 1948 to 1950 when Mr. Hunt and Mr. Mullen were employed by the Marshall Plan, and Dorothy Hunt was employed by Mr. Averell Harriman, then in Paris. When [redacted] then with the Retirement Affairs Branch, requested Mr. Mullen's assistance in securing employment for Mr. Hunt, Mr. Mullen had arranged several interviews for Mr. Hunt. Mr. Mullen subsequently decided to have Mullen and Company hire Mr. Hunt because of his excellent writing abilities, and he had proved a splendid addition to the staff prior to the Watergate incident.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)**SECRET**

SECRET

6. Mr. Mullen advised the undersigned telephonically at 11:45 AM on 20 July 1973 that when he attempted to get Mr. Helms' letter of recommendation concerning Mr. Hunt, he had been reminded by his secretary that the entire Mullen & Company file concerning Mr. Hunt had been given to the U.S. Attorney's office by Mr. Robert Bennett of Mullen & Company during the investigation of the Watergate incident during the Summer and Fall of 1972. Mullen & Company had not kept any copies of material in its Howard Hunt file and, consequently, no copy of Mr. Helms' letter is available through Mullen & Company.

[Redacted]

DC/CCS/CCB

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

Orig [Redacted]
DDO ~
IG
OLC
1088 (Hunt)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

700 53 10 11.13

SECRET