

~~TOP SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION~~

27 March 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Attached FBI Report

1. On the afternoon of 26 March, General Smith called me on the telephone and asked if I would drop over to his office. Upon arrival, he showed me a letter addressed to him personally signed by Mr. John Edgar Hoover. This correspondence was identical with the letter addressed to you, herewith attached, except that in a last paragraph Mr. Hoover wrote that the only other recipient of this information was Mr. Robert Cutler, of the White House. General Smith said that the letter had been "convoyed" to him by three FBI representatives and that apparently they set great store by the sensitivity of the source and the information. He asked me to talk with Mr. Park Armstrong, so that we could make a joint recommendation to him then and there as to how the material should be handled. It was my proposal, concurred in by Mr. Armstrong, that the information be cabled through CIA channels to our representative in [redacted] for immediate delivery to [redacted]. General Smith approved this recommendation. I, therefore, dispatched the cable priority, it clearing our Signal Center by 1730, 26 March. General Smith's letter was returned by hand to Mr. Armstrong the same evening.

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

(b)(1)
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2. At 10:30 this morning, Mr. Papich 'phoned me and asked if General Smith had mentioned to me a letter he had received yesterday from Mr. Hoover. I replied that he had. Mr. Papich then stated that he had a similar piece of correspondence for you and that under the circumstances he would deliver it directly to me in the course of the day. This is the piece of correspondence which is attached. I have taken the liberty of routing the only other copy to our FBI Liaison Officer for the use of this office. You may desire to forward the original to Mr. Becker whom I have informally briefed on the events in paragraph (1) above. Mr. Wisner has been kept informed.

DOCUMENT NO. _____
 NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
 DECLASSIFIED
 CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
 NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2011
 AUTH: NH 70-2
 DATE: 31 MAR 1981 REVIEWER: [redacted]

mt
 Richard Helms
 Acting Deputy Director (Plans)

(b)(3)

Attachment

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TS 87449
#1 of 4

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~TOP SECRET~~

**United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.**

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE No. _____

VIA LIAISON

Date: March 26, 1953

To: Mr. Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

JWH From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: SOVIET WAR PLANS

DOCUMENT NO. _____
 NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
 DECLASSIFIED
 CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
 NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2011
 AUTH: HR 102
 DATE: 31 MAR 1987 REVIEWER: [] (b)(3)

In my letter to you dated February 10, 1953, I furnished information received from an informant indicating that the Soviets intended to "eliminate" Tito within three months from January, 1953. It was stated that 160 Croats were being trained to do the job. That information was received from an informant who has given the Bureau reliable information in the past, and it was purported to represent statements made by Soviet officials stationed in Europe who were believed by the informant to be important officials of the Soviet Ministry of State Security (MGB).

I have just received information from the same informant that eight individuals were leaving for Yugoslavia (probably from Vienna) for the purpose of assassinating Tito on or about March 28, 1953. One of these individuals is a Soviet official (name unknown) who reportedly left Vienna last week (possibly for Yugoslavia). He is described as follows: Age - 32; Height - 5 feet 3½ inches; Weight - 165 pounds; Eyes - blue; Full head of dark blond hair. The physical descriptions of the other alleged assassins are not known, but it was stated to the informant that the Soviet official and three others would be dressed as priests, one would be dressed as a naval officer (country unknown), one as an air force pilot (country unknown) and two as civilians.

It was also stated to the informant that, if the attempt to assassinate Tito fails, they will not, for reasons unknown to the informant, be able to make another attempt until June, 1953.

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No further details are available, and I am unable to elaborate on the above information or to evaluate it other than to state that the informant has furnished reliable and valuable information in the past concerning domestic intelligence matters, which information, in numerous instances, has been corroborated through other sources. It is possible, of course, that the Soviets have "planted" the information which is set forth above for deceptive purposes; however, there is no indication that this has been done.

The informant is expected to furnish valuable information in the future and for his protection, it is requested that the above be treated as top secret and, if it is acted upon, that it be given utmost security.

- 2 -

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~TOP SECRET~~

