

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:

Date:

1/30/61

Office: Washington, D. C. b6
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Field Office File No.: 161-114

Bureau File No.:

Title: GEORGE WILDMAN BALL

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

No employment record, Department of State. Former associates b3 per CIA now at State comment favorably and recommend. Employment verified, U. S. Strategic Bombing Survey. Associates on Capitol Hill comment favorably and recommend. No credit or police department records in Virginia for appointee or family. Information from Foreign Agents Registration file set forth.

- No record HCUA.

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DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.EMPLOYMENTDepartment of State

On January 25, 1961, the following people at the Department of State, advised SA JOSEPH W. SPEICHER the appointee had not yet entered on duty at the Department of State, and they had no additional pertinent information concerning him:

Department of State, and Department of State.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/16/85 BY 9145

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[redacted] Department of State, advised SA WALLACE A. HAWKINS on January 26, 1961, he has known the appointee since 1929, on a professional and social basis. He said he first met the appointee when both he and the appointee were students at Northwestern University. He stated he considered the appointee to be a man of excellent character and reputation, and he is a person of unquestioned loyalty to the United States. He said to the best of his knowledge the appointee's associates were people of good character and reputation.

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[redacted] said he is also acquainted with the appointee's wife and his brother, RALPH and both of these individuals are people of the highest integrity and unquestioned loyalty to the United States. [redacted] advised he would recommend the appointee for any position with the United States Government for which he might be considered.

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[redacted] Department of State, advised SA HAWKINS on January 26, 1961, he has known the appointee for about the last four years on a limited professional basis. [redacted] said he has nothing but the highest regard for the appointee and considers him to be a man of exceptionally high character and reputation. He also mentioned the appointee is unusually brilliant and is a capable individual whose loyalty to the United States is above reproach.

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[redacted] stated he was not acquainted with any member of the appointee's family and he did not know any of his associates. He remarked he considered the appointee to be well qualified and he would recommend him for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

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CHESTER BOWLES, Under Secretary of State, United States Department of State, advised SA HAWKINS on January 30, 1961, that he has known the appointee for approximately eight years on a political and social basis. He stated that his contacts with appointee have not been intimate, but that he has nothing but the highest regard for him. Mr. BOWLES stated he considers the appointee to be a man whose character and reputation are above reproach; that he never had any reason to question the appointee's loyalty to the United States; and that he has never heard anything which might reflect unfavorably upon him.

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Mr. BOWLES informed that he is acquainted with the appointee's wife very slightly; that he is highly impressed with her. He stated that he considers the appointee to be highly qualified in his field and that he would unhesitatingly recommend him for any position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

United States Strategic Bombing Survey

On January 19 and 23, 1961, [redacted] [redacted] Pentagon, advised SA [redacted] there would be no employment records for the Strategic Bombing Survey located in the Pentagon. She suggested such records would be at the Archives.

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On January 27, 1961, IC [redacted] caused a check to be made of the records at the Archives which revealed that GEORGE W. BALL, Director, United States Strategic Bombing Survey was employed on January 16, 1945, and this position was terminated on September 8, 1945. These records contained no additional pertinent information.

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ASSOCIATES

On January 24, 1961, United States Representative RICHARD BOLLING, Missouri, advised SA CONRAD L. TRAHERN he has known the appointee personally and professionally for the last nine years. He stated the appointee is a very capable and competent individual who to his knowledge enjoys a good reputation, character and associates. He stated he believes the appointee to be loyal to the United States and recommends him for a position of trust and confidence with the government.

On January 24, 1961, [redacted] Administrative Assistant to United States Senator [redacted] [redacted] advised SA TRAHERN he contacted [redacted] who subsequently advised he could not recall the appointee.

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On January 23, 1961, United States Senator A. S. MIKE MONRONEY, Oklahoma, advised SA TRAHERN he has known the appointee professionally and personally for the last ten years.

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He stated Mr. BALL is a very capable attorney who to his knowledge enjoys a good character, reputation and associates. He stated he believes the appointee to be loyal to the United States and highly recommends him for a position of trust and confidence with the government.

On January 23, 1961, United States Senator EUGENE J. MC CARTHY, Minnesota, and United States Senator CLAIR ENGLE, California, both advised they know the appointee only by reputation and could only state they have never heard anything unfavorable concerning him.

CREDIT AND POLICE AGENCIES

On January 23, 1961, SE [] caused a check to be made of the files of the Retail Merchants Credit Bureau of Alexandria, Incorporated, Alexandria, Virginia, and no identifiable record was located for the appointee or his wife. RUTH MURDOCH BALL []

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On January 23, 1961, SE [] caused a check to be made of the files of the Police Department, City of Alexandria, Virginia, and no identifiable record was located for the appointee or his family.

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On January 23, 1961, SE [] caused a check to be made of the files of the Arlington County, Virginia, Police Department, Arlington, Virginia, and no identifiable record was located for the appointee or his family.

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MISCELLANEOUS

On January 25, 1961, [] Registration Section, Internal Security Division, Department of Justice, made available to SA [] the appointee's registration file which revealed he was born on December 21, 1909, at Des Moines, Iowa. This file disclosed the appointee filed a short form registration under the Foreign Agents Registration Act on January 19, 1948, in support of the registration of the law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Friendly and Cox, Washington, D. C. As of

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January 19, 1948, this firm was acting as agent for the government of France.

As of March 6, 1951, the above firm, now known as Cleary, Gottlieb, Friendly and Ball was registered and acting as agents for the governments of France and Venezuela.

As of August 19, 1955, the above firm was registered and acting as agents for the government of France, the European Coal and Steel Community, Luxembourg, the National Cuban Sugar Mills Owners Association and the Cuban Sugar Cane Growers Association, both at Havana, Cuba.

As of July 26, 1960, the above firm now known as Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen and Ball was registered and acting as agents for the government of France, the European Coal and Steel Community, Luxembourg, the European Economic Commission and the European Atomic Energy Commission, both in Brussels, Belgium.

These files contain no additional pertinent information.

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On January 24, 1961, a representative of the Central Intelligence Agency, advised SA [REDACTED]

On January 25, 1961, IC [REDACTED] reviewed the files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and no identifiable record was located for the appointee. b6 b7C