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Entropic Memes

Random musings on history, politics, and more

« <u>Past : Present : Future</u> <u>Internet 1, OPSEC 0</u> »

Friday FOIA Fun: Robin Moore

Robin Moore, author of the classic special-forces book "The Green Berets" (and co-author of the "Ballad of the Green Berets"), died in February of this year. With much patience and wrangling, I managed to get a copy of, well, at least parts of his FBI file. Some of the documents – referenced in other, later memos – seem to be missing, perhaps destroyed; most of the remainder are heavily redacted; some were referred to "another agency" for review. Assuming, as seems safe, that this second party is the Defense Intelligence Agency, it'll probably be, oh, five years from now before anyone knows the full details of Moore's government files. In the meantime, however, you can take a look at what's been released so far.

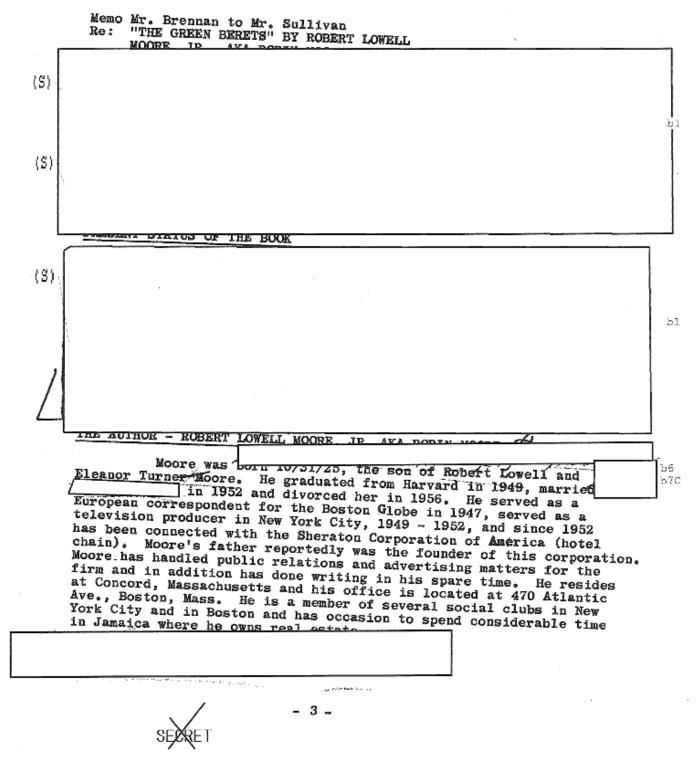
Moore's file, incidentally, is number 94-61092; the "94" prefix is *officially* "Research Matters and General Correspondence", but in practice it seems to have been used for other stuff – like investigations of general "subversives" – as well.

Click on any of the images below to see them full-sized.

The first page I'll be showing you is mostly redacted, but includes some biographical information not (yet, hint, hint) on his Wikipedia page:

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"D.J. Brennan, Jr" was a "top Hoover aide" of some sort, according to Time Magazine.

These memos are all from 1965, but, as we'll see in a moment, the FBI were aware of Moore at least as early as 1963:

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SEC**RE**T

Memo Mr. Brennan to Mr. Sullivan Re: "THE GREEN BERETS" BY ROBERT LOWELL MOORE, JR., AKA ROBIN MOORE

Moore claims that in 1962 he met President Johnson i Jamaica and at that time he was also introduced to a Colonel bб described as an aide to President Kennedy. Moore has indicated that **b7C** as a result of this initial meeting, he was able to establish contact with the White House who assisted him in establishing contact with people in the Pentagon. Through these contacts, arrangements were made to take the training with the Special Forces at Fort Bragg. REVIEW OF BUREAU FILES In 1963, the Bureau developed information indicating that Moore, described as a wealthy young man and writer, was in contact with a representative of the Junta Revolucionaria Cubana (JURE), an anti-Castro organization. The Cubans were negotiating with Moore in an effort to utilize his property in Jamaica for operations to be directed against the Castro Government. Bureau source b6 b7C Ъ7D This investigation further indicated that Moore's attorney was a New York socialite named [Mashington, D. C., and had been in contact with one Colonel Ъ6 Ъ7С whom the source identified as a military aide to President According to the source, he was informed by Moore that he had attended the Special Forces school at Fort Bragg, North Carolina and that President Johnson wanted him to travel to Vietnam in order to write a book on the Special Forces operations in that country. At that time Moore indicated to the source that he already had written a book on Cuba entitled "The Devil To Par " (S) Ъ1

In January - February, 1964, we made some inquiry concerning Moore's background in view of the reported connection with JURE. The Chief of Police in his home town, Concord, Mass., described Moore as a Director of the Sheraton Hotel Systems, a member of a fine American family and an individual of excellent reputation. He stated that

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The Junta Revolucionaria Cubana, or JURE, were, according to various sources, a CIA-backed, anti-Castro organization. Most of the substantiative references seem to be in Spanish, but if you're interested in them, Google is your friend.

Note that – in my mind, at least – there's some potential confusion over *which* Robert Moore is being described in this and the next page; the 1965 memo, above, described the "Green Berets" Robin Moore as merely doing advertising work for

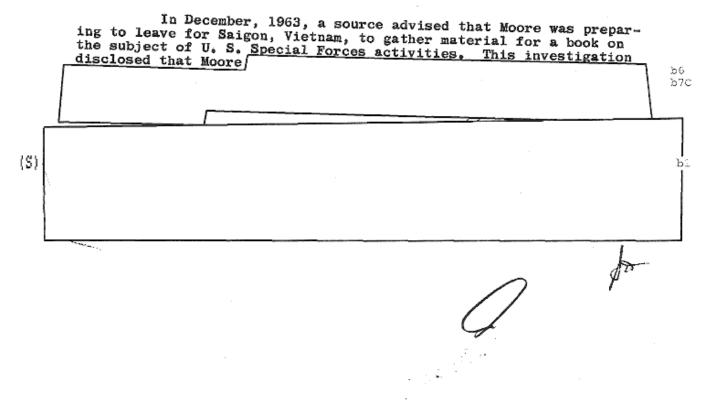
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Sheraton, while the 1963 investigation referenced here seems to describe him as a "director" of the company – a term I can't help but think was more accurate of the *father*, Robert Moore, Sr.



Memo Mr. Brennan to Mr. Sullivan Re: "THE GREEN BERETS" BY ROBERT LOWELL MOORE, JR., AKA ROBIN MOORE

Moore was a graduate of Harvard University and reportedly interested in Writing. Investigation in Concord did not develop any derogatory information.

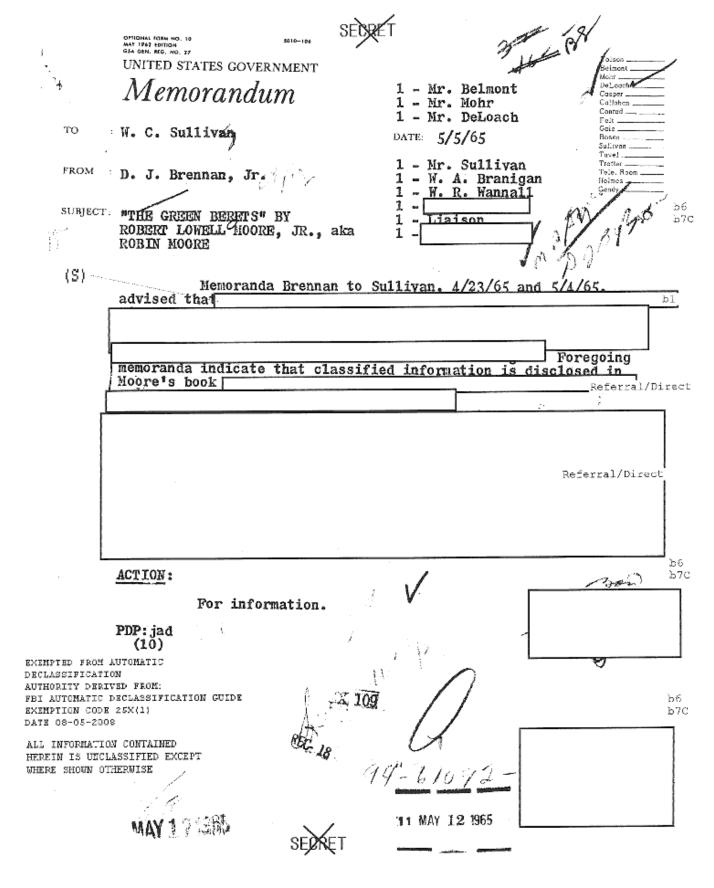




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Quite aside from his involvement with anti-Castro revolutionaries, it seems that Moore came to the authorities for an

entirely different reason: apparently, the rumors about "The Green Berets" are true: it *does* disclose "classified information". At least, according to the FBI, presumably at the insistence of the DIA:



The last reference to Moore in the files *released* by the Bureau concern a 1974 novel co-written by Moore called "The

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Family Man", which was of interest to the Bureau more because of it's co-authors, and its depiction of the Bureau, than because of Robin Moore. Still, at the end of the several-page review of the book, the FBI thoughtfully provided a brief biography of Moore, which hints at an even deeper anti-Castro involvement:

Mr. Heim to Mr. McDermott Memorandum "THE FAMILY MAN" BY ROBIN MOORE, WITH MILT MACHLIN, BOOK RE: REVIEW

"Well, we can bring charges against Conte on fraud. We can check out his income. We could put the IRS on it. It'll knock him out of the Governor's race for sure."

The chief turned in his swivel chair away from Doyle, toward the wall, toward the flags hanging behind him. He seemed to be speaking into the wall.

"I don't think I'm getting through to you, Doyle. This is not just my opinion. It's what I've been told by the Attorney General's office.

The Director sighed, unhappily.

"And between you and me, the Attorney General got the word from higher up too. Would you believe that we've got to drop this case for reasons of national security?" "Where does it all

"Jesus!" Regan said, softly.

end?" "Stick with it, Doyle," the chief said, "but don't push it. It'll all add up some day. Jobs change, offices change. Look at me. Did anybody ever think I'd be in this seat?" He extended his hand to Doyle. "You've done a terrific job. At least you and I know that, and I won't forget it."

AUTHORS:

Robin Moore, born Robert Lowell Moore, Jr., October 31, 1925, is the author of such books as "The Green Berets," "The French Connection," and "The Happy Hooker." Bufiles reflect that he has had connections with members of anti-Castro Cuban organizations, and that his name and address were found in the address book of a woman who has been connected with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in Jamaica.

Milt Machlin, born Milton Robert Machlin, June 26, 1924, is an editor of "Argosy" magazine and is the author of "Ninth Life," which is a story about Caryl Chessman which appears to cast doubt on the guilt of Chessman.

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The Fair Play for Cuba Committee had quite an interesting history; apparently membership included Norman Mailer, Alan Ginsberg... and Lee Harvey Oswald.

So, there you go. Assuming the internet – and this website – are still around in five or six years, and that the Defense Intelligence Agency actually releases any of the information referred to them by the Bureau, I'll post whatever new details

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come to light. For the time bein	ng, well, enjoy what's been released so far	
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