

*Freedom of Information  
and  
Privacy Acts*

*Subject:* John William Chancellor

*File Number:* HQ 161 - 4025

*Section:* 2 of 2



*Federal Bureau of Investigation*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 8/4/65

FROM : [REDACTED] (RUC)

b7c

SUBJECT: JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR  
SPECIAL INQUIRY  
WHITE HOUSE

Re Bureau cable to [REDACTED]

Enclosed are four copies of a letterhead memorandum containing the results of an interview conducted with the [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] on 8/3/65.

b7c

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. - 4)  
(1 - Liaison Section)
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- NWP:elm
- (4)

3 ENCLOSURE

161-4025-41

NOT RECORDED

18 AUG 9 1965

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5 OCT 8 1965  
5 OCT 7 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

August 4, 1965

JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR  
SPECIAL INQUIRY  
WHITE HOUSE

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] was interviewed in [REDACTED] on  
August 3, 1965, by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the applicant  
went through an amicable divorce on the legal grounds of  
desertion by mutual consent in November 1958 in Illinois. He  
later became remarried to BARBARA UPSHAW, his present wife,  
[REDACTED].

He has been employed as a White House correspondent  
by the National Broadcasting Company up until very recently.  
[REDACTED] him as a man of good morals, who is mentally  
and emotionally stable. [REDACTED] that he uses intoxicants  
only to a moderate degree. [REDACTED] that he was arrested  
on one occasion in Chicago in 1951 when he became intoxicated  
and climbed a fire escape. The arrest occurred since there  
had been a series of robberies in that area; however, he was  
later cleared and no serious charges were made. [REDACTED]  
that he is moderate in all personal habits.

[REDACTED]. He is considered bright and intelligent. He  
is well-respected by his former employer, the National Broad-  
casting Company, and by the White House, where he has been  
in constant touch with White House officials.

[REDACTED] has no reason to doubt his character  
or loyalty and recommends him for a position of trust.

This document contains neither  
recommendations nor conclusions of  
the FBI. It is the property of the  
FBI and is loaned to your agency;  
it and its contents are not to be  
distributed outside your agency.

161-4025-41  
ENCLOSURE

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

|   |                                   |   |   |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| REPORTING OFFICE<br><b>NEW YORK</b>             | OFFICE OF ORIGIN<br><b>BUREAU</b> | DATE<br><b>AUG 4 1965</b>                   | INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD<br><b>7/28/65-8/4/65</b> |
| TITLE OF CASE<br><b>JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR</b> |                                   | REPORT MADE BY<br><b>[REDACTED]</b>         | TYPED BY<br><b>pml b7c</b>                    |
|   |                                   | CHARACTER OF CASE<br><b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b> |   |

REFERENCE:

Bureau teletype to New York dated 7/28/65.

- RUC -

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source

File Number Where Located

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Page 2

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Page 9

b1, b2, b7D, b6, b7C

(By Request)

|  |                                   |                              |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| APPROVED<br><i>KMA</i>   | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE           | DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW |  |
| COPIES MADE: 2   | 1-Bureau<br>1-New York (161-1857) | 161-40751-42                 |  |
| ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE. |                                   | NOT RECORDED<br>1 AUG 5 1965 |  |
| CLASSIFIED BY SP4-bia-sb   |                                   | NOTATIONS                    |  |
| DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF ATTACHED REPORT                                   |                                   | [REDACTED]                   |  |
| AGENCY: 3/9/99 #435721   | REQUEST RECD.                     | [REDACTED]                   |  |
| DATE FWD.  | HOW FWD.                          | [REDACTED]                   |  |
| BY: [REDACTED]   |                                   | [REDACTED]                   |  |

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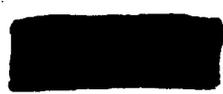
*SP4-bia*

53 OCT 8 1965

NY 161-1857

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Confidential informants mentioned but not further identified in this report are identified as follows:



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CLASSIFICATION:

This report is classified "~~Confidential~~" since it contains information from sources and informants, disclosure of whose identity could affect the internal security of the country.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Copy to:

Report of:

Date:

[REDACTED]

AUG 4 1965

Office: New York, New York

b7c

Field Office File #:

161-1857

Bureau File #:

Title:

JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Employment verified. Associates and neighbors recommend. No credit or arrest record located for appointee and wife.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
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3/1/99 #435721

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Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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DETAILS:

EMPLOYMENT AND ASSOCIATES

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[REDACTED]

NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY (NBC), THIRTY ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NYC, ADVISED JULY TWENTY NINE CHANCELLOR BORN APRIL SEVEN, NINETEEN TWENTY SEVEN WITH SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER TWO FIVE EIGHT ONE FOUR FOUR ONE THREE ONE, ATTENDED DE PAUL ACADEMY, CHICAGO, ILL. NINETEEN FORTY ONE TO FORTY THREE AND ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY NINETEEN FORTY SEVEN TO FORTY NINE, BUT DID NOT GRADUATE. FATHER DECEASED, MOTHER, MOLLY BARRETT CHANCELLOR, AS OF NINETEEN FIFTY RESIDED ONE THREE TWO ZERO NORTH ASTOR, CHICAGO, AS DID APPOINTEE. HE SERVED UNITED STATES ARMY MAY, NINETEEN FORTY FOUR TO JULY, FORTY SEVEN. PRIOR TO ARMY SERVICE, HE SERVED AS SECOND MATE ON RIVERBOAT WHICH SAILED ILLINOIS RIVER.

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE TWO

FEBRUARY, NINETEEN FORTY EIGHT TO APRIL, NINETEEN FIFTY AND  
CAME TO NBC WITH CHICAGO BUREAU IN MAY, NINETEEN FIFTY. HE  
TRANSFERRED TO ARTISTS' PAYROLL NOVEMBER, NINETEEN FIFTY SIX  
AND BACK TO REGULAR NBC PAYROLL IN OCTOBER, NINETEEN SIXTY TWO.  
IN JUNE, SIXTY THREE, HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO BRUSSELS, BELGIUM  
AND RETURNED NYC MAY, SIXTY FOUR. IN SEPTEMBER, SIXTY FOUR,  
HE TRANSFERRED TO WASHINGTON BUREAU OF NBC WHERE CURRENTLY  
ASSIGNED.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] NBC, ADVISED JULY TWENTY NINE EMPLOYEE RESIDED  
ONE ONE NINE NINE PARK AVE., NYC, APARTMENT SEVENTEEN WHEN  
HE WAS ON STAFF OF "TODAY SHOW", NBC TELEVISION. SHE STATED  
APPOINTEE'S CURRENT WIFE, BARBARA UPSHAW, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SHE HAS  
KNOWN APPOINTEE PROFESSIONALLY FOR SIX YEARS AND HAS FOUND  
HIM TO BE EXTREMELY COMPETENT CORRESPONDENT WHOSE INTEGRITY,  
REPUTATION AND MORALS ARE ABOVE REPROACH. SHE BELIEVES HIM  
TO BE LOYAL AMERICAN WORTHY OF POSITION FOR WHICH PRESIDENT  
JOHNSON SEEKS HIS SERVICES.

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE THREE

CHET HUNTLEY, THE HUNTLEY-BRINKLEY REPORT, NBC NEWS DIVISION, ADVISED JULY TWENTY NINE HE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE PROFESSIONALLY AND SOCIALLY SINCE NINETEEN FIFTY FIVE AND WORKED WITH HIM IN LONDON AND LEBANON DURING NINETEEN FIFTY EIGHT AND SAW HIM SEVERAL TIMES IN PARIS DURING ASSIGNMENTS OVERSEAS. HE DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS EXCELLENT CORRESPONDENT. HE KNOWS APPOINTEE'S WIFE BUT NEVER MET MOTHER. APPOINTEE'S FATHER IS DECEASED AND BELIEVED HE DIED WHEN APPOINTEE VERY YOUNG. APPOINTEE PREVIOUSLY MARRIED BUT HE DID NOT KNOW HIS FIRST WIFE AND HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE REASON BEHIND DIVORCE. HE STATED HAS NEVER HAD REASON TO QUESTION APPOINTEE'S INTEGRITY OR MORALITY AND WOULD HAVE NO HESITANCY IN RECOMMENDING HIM FOR POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF VOICE OF AMERICA.

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] ADVISED JULY TWENTY NINE HE FIRST MET APPOINTEE IN NINETEEN [REDACTED] CHICAGO TIMES. THIS PAPER LATER MERGED WITH THE CHICAGO SUN AND AT TIME OF MERGER APPOINTEE, A REPORTER, LOST POSITION AS RESULT OF MERGER. APPOINTEE WAS OUTSTANDING CITY DESK ASSISTANT AT PAPER.

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE FOUR

AFTER LEAVING CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, APPOINTEE OBTAINED POSITION WITH STATION WMAQ, NBC, CHICAGO, AND AT THAT TIME APPOINTEE MARRIED TO FIRST WIFE, CONNIE, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] APPOINTEE AND FIRST WIFE WERE DIVORCED SOMETIME AROUND NINETEEN FIFTY IN CHICAGO. NO SCANDAL OR NOTORIETY ATTACHED TO DIVORCE, JUST COULDN'T GET ALONG. APPOINTEE MARRIED PRESENT WIFE, BARBARA, IN CHICAGO IN EARLY PART OF NINETEEN FIFTY EIGHT. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (PHONETIC). SHORTLY AFTER SECOND MARRIAGE, APPOINTEE WAS SENT TO EUROPE BY NBC [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED APPOINTEE [REDACTED] AND HE BELIEVES CHANCELLOR'S INTEGRITY AND PERSONAL MORALITY ARE IMPECCABLE. APPOINTEE HAS ALWAYS FELT VERY STRONGLY ABOUT WHAT ONE MUST DO FOR HIS COUNTRY AND THAT IS REASON HE ACCEPTED APPOINTMENT AT A PERSONAL SACRIFICE FROM MONETARY POINT OF VIEW. CHANCELLOR'S LOYALTY BEYOND QUESTION AND HE FEELS PRESIDENT JOHNSON COULD NOT HAVE PICKED A BETTER MAN FOR THE JOB. HE DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS ONE OF FOUR OR FIVE BEST JOURNALISTS IN COUNTRY. DURING LAST COUPLE OF YEARS

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE FIVE

IT IS HIS OPINION THAT APPOINTEE HAS BEEN PRIVY TO SECRETS NO ONE ELSE HAS, AND APPOINTEE HAS BEEN ABSOLUTELY DISCREET ABOUT THEM. HE RECOMMENDS HIGHLY.

[REDACTED] THE HUNTLEY-BRINKLEY REPORT, ADVISED JULY TWENTY NINE HE FIRST MET APPOINTEE CASUALLY IN NINETEEN FIFTY TWO AND HAS KNOWN HIM WELL SINCE FIFTY FOUR. HE STATED APPOINTEE WORKED FOR NBC IN CHICAGO UNTIL NINETEEN FIFTY EIGHT WHEN HE WENT OVERSEAS TO VIENNA, AUSTRIA. IN TERMS OF CHARACTER, INTEGRITY AND MORALITY, THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY QUESTION AS FAR AS APPOINTEE IS CONCERNED. APPOINTEE HAS GREAT PERSONAL RESILIENCE AND IS VERY ADAPTABLE TO ANY SITUATION. HIS LOYALTY IS BEYOND QUESTION AND HE WOULD RECOMMEND HIM WITHOUT HESITATION FOR POSITION OF EXTREME TRUST.

[REDACTED] NBC NEWS DIVISION, ADVISED JULY TWENTY NINE HE FIRST MET APPOINTEE IN NINETEEN FIFTY FIVE, AND THEY HAVE BECOME VERY GOOD FRIENDS. HE DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS A FIRST CLASS CORRESPONDENT AND INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A MAN OF HIS WORD TO A REMARKABLE DEGREE. HE KNOWS THAT APPOINTEE TOOK POSITION WITH GOVERNMENT BECAUSE CHANCELLOR

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE SIX

HAD STATED THAT IF HE WERE EVER ASKED TO WORK FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, HE FELT IT WAS AN OBLIGATION HE HAD TO MEET. HE STATED CHANCELLOR A VERY SINCERE AND SERIOUS PATRIOT WHO IS REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT HIS COUNTRY. HE WOULD LIKEWISE RECOMMEND [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HE STATED APPOINTEE'S PERSONAL MORALS ARE IMPECCABLE AND HE WOULD NOT HESITATE TO RECOMMEND. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], NBC TELEVISION, ADVISED JULY TWENTY NINE THAT HE WORKED WITH APPOINTEE ON [REDACTED] AND KNEW HIM PROFESSIONALLY PRIOR TO THAT TIME. HE DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS MOST COOPERATIVE AND VERY INTELLIGENT AND A WONDERFUL PERSON TO WORK WITH. WHILE ON AFOREMENTIONED SHOW THEY TRAVELED TOGETHER QUITE A LOT AND GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER WELL. HE HAS GREAT RESPECT FOR APPOINTEE'S MENTALITY AND ABILITY AND AN OVERALL ADMIRATION FOR CHANCELLOR AS A PERSON. THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY QUESTION AS TO APPOINTEE'S CHARACTER, PERSONAL MORALS OR INTEGRITY AND HE BELIEVES HIM TO BE LOYAL AMERICAN WORTHY OF POSITION OF EXTREME TRUST. HE KNEW NOTHING SURROUNDING CIRCUMSTANCES OF APPOINTEE'S DIVORCE FROM FIRST WIFE.

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE SEVEN

[REDACTED], THE HUNTLEY-BRINKLEY REPORT, NBC NEWS, ADVISED JULY TWENTY NINE THAT HE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE SINCE [REDACTED] WHEN THEY WERE IN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] APPOINTEE'S FATHER HE BELIEVES WAS NEWSPAPER MAN WHO MOVED AROUND A GREAT DEAL AND DIED WHEN APPOINTEE YOUNG BOY. APPOINTEE'S MOTHER WAS HOUSEKEEPER FOR HOTEL CHAIN IN CHICAGO AND BOTH LIVED IN VARIOUS HOTELS WHILE APPOINTEE GROWING UP. HE BELIEVES APPOINTEE'S MOTHER IS MENTALLY ILL AND CONFINED TO A NURSING HOME IN CHICAGO RUN BY CATHOLIC NUNS. HE DOES NOT KNCW ADDRESS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PRIOR TO GOING INTO THE ARMY, APPOINTEE WORKED ON RIVERBOAT ON ILLINOIS RIVER. AFTER ARMY SERVICE, APPOINTEE WENT TO AN EXTENSION SCHOOL OF UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS IN CHICAGO AND GOT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

[REDACTED] STATED APPOINTEE PRESENTLY MARRIED TO FORMER BARBARA UPSHAW. APPOINTEE'S [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THEY WERE DIVORCED IN CHICAGO, BUT APPOINTEE NEVER DISCUSSED HIS DIVORCE WITH HIM AND HE COULD OFFER NO INFORMATION AS TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THIS

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NY 161-1852  
PAGE EIGHT

HE STATED APPOINTEE IS DEDICATED TO HIS FAMILY AND HIS PROFESSION AND HE IS ONE OF THE FINEST PERSONS HE HAS EVER HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF KNOWING. HE STATED APPOINTEE A DEDICATED AND LOYAL AMERICAN AND A BRILLIANT CHOICE FOR THE POSITION TO WHICH THE PRESIDENT HAS APPOINTED HIM. HIS INTEGRITY AND PERSONAL MORALS ARE ABOVE REPROACH AND APPOINTEE IS EXTREMELY VERSATILE IN HIS ABILITY TO CONVERSE WITH PEOPLE OF ALL WALKS OF LIFE.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], NBC NEWS, ADVISED JULY THIRTY HE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE PROFESSIONALLY SINCE NINETEEN FIFTY EIGHT. HE ADVISED PRIOR TO FIFTY EIGHT, APPOINTEE WORKED IN CHICAGO FOR NBC AND MADE A NAME FOR HIMSELF IN THE NEWS MEDIA DURING HIS COVERAGE OF THE LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS RACIAL CRISIS. AFTER SERVING OVERSEAS, APPOINTEE WAS HOST ON THE "TODAY SHOW" FOR ABOUT A YEAR SUBSEQUENT TO JULY, NINETEEN SIXTY ONE. HE DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS MAN OF GREAT INTEGRITY WHOSE PERSONAL HABITS ARE IMPECCABLE AND HE KNOWS OF NOTHING THAT APPOINTEE HAS EVER DONE WHICH WOULD EVER PROVE EMBARRASSING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE U. S. HE RECOMMENDED HIM HIGHLY.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NBC NEWS, ADVISED JULY THIRTY THAT HE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE FOR FIFTEEN YEARS.

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE NINE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HE DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS VERY COMPETENT INDIVIDUAL, WHOSE CONDUCT IS ABOVE APPROACH AND HIS LOYALTY IS UNQUESTIONED. HE STATED HE KNOWS OF NOTHING IN APPOINTEE'S BACKGROUND IN CONNECTION WITH HIS MORALS OR PERSONAL HABITS OR ASSOCIATIONS WHICH WOULD EVER PROVE EMBARRASSING TO THE PRESIDENT. AS FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED, THE APPOINTEE IS AS MORAL A MAN AS CAN BE. HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE APPOINTEE'S DIVORCE. HE RECOMMENDED APPOINTEE HIGHLY FOR THE POSITION TO WHICH HE HAS BEEN NOMINATED.

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[REDACTED] NBC, ADVISED ON JULY THIRTY THAT HE FIRST MET APPOINTEE WHEN LATTER WAS WORKING IN THEIR CHICAGO OFFICE DURING LATTER PART OF NINETEEN FIFTIES. IN HIS CAPACITY HE HAS HAD RATHER CLOSE CONTACT WITH APPOINTEE ON A PROFESSIONAL LEVEL ONLY. HE DOES NOT KNOW APPOINTEE'S FAMILY. HE STATED THE PRESIDENT COULD NOT HAVE SELECTED A BETTER MAN FOR THE JOB THAN APPOINTEE. HE DESCRIBED HIM AS A MAN OF EXCELLENT ETHICS AND EXTREME GOOD JUDGMENT. HE HAS ABILITY TO HANDLE CONTROVERSIAL AND DELICATE THINGS WITH BALANCE AND

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE TEN

AND FAIRNESS AND ABSENCE OF PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT ON THE HIGHEST LEVEL. HE IS INTELLIGENT WITH GREAT DEAL OF COMMON SENSE WHOSE LOYALTY IS ABOVE REPROACH.

[REDACTED] HE ADVISED THERE IS NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO HIS KNOWLEDGE IN APPOINTEE'S BACKGROUND THAT HAS EVER HAPPENED IN HIS PERSONAL LIFE THAT MIGHT PROVE EMBARRASSING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE U. S. IN THE FUTURE, SUCH AS DRINKING, HOMOSEXUALITY OR ANYTHING OF THAT NATURE. HE RECOMMENDED HIM HIGHLY FOR THE POSITION FOR WHICH HE HAS BEEN NAMED.

[REDACTED], NBC NEWS, ADVISED ON JULY THIRTY THAT HE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE SINCE NINETEEN FIFTY THREE, BOTH SOCIALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY. [REDACTED] SINCE THAT TIME. AS TO APPOINTEE'S PERSONAL CHARACTER, THERE ARE VERY FEW MEN WHOSE FRIENDSHIP HE VALUES AS HE DOES THAT OF APPOINTEE. HE IS A MAN OF BASIC HONESTY WITH NO SHAM ABOUT HIM. HE ADDED THAT THERE IS NO REASON WHATSOEVER TO QUESTION HIS LOYALTY IN ANY WAY. HE CONSIDERS APPOINTEE TO BE EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT. HE STATED THAT ALL CONTRACTS DRAWN UP BY NBC HAVE A STRONG MORALS CLAUSE AND THE NETWORK GUARDS THIS VERY

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE ELEVEN

JEALOUSLY BECAUSE OF WHAT A BREACH OF THIS CLAUSE BY AN EMPLOYEE MIGHT DO TO NBC NEWS. HE ADVISED THAT CHANCELLOR HAS HAD THIS CLAUSE EXPLAINED TO HIM AND HE FULLY UNDERSTANDS IT AND HE HAS NEVER INDICATED THAT THERE HAS EVER BEEN ANYTHING IN HIS BACKGROUND WHICH WOULD HAVE VIOLATED THIS CLAUSE. HE STATED THAT AS FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED APPOINTEE IS A MAN OF INTEGRITY, GOOD PERSONAL MORALS AND ONE WHO IS WORTHY OF THE POSITION FOR WHICH HE IS BEING SOUGHT. HE ADVISED HE WOULD RECOMMEND [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. HE NEVER KNEW APPOINTEE'S FIRST WIFE.  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NBC NEWS, ADVISED JULY THIRTY THAT HE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE PROFESSIONALLY AND SOCIALLY SINCE NINETEEN FIFTY ONE, AND THEIR PATHS HAVE GROSSED IN LONDON, PARIS AND BERLIN OVER THE YEARS. HE DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS MAN OF HIGH PRINCIPLES AND EXCELLENT MORALS. HE SAID APPOINTEE TAKES A DRINK SOCIALLY AND THAT IS ALL. HE FEELS THAT CHANCELLOR IS AN EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR THE POSITION WITH THE VOICE OF AMERICA. HE DID NOT KNOW APPOINTEE'S FIRST WIFE AND DOES NOT KNOW CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THEIR DIVORCE BUT

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NY 161-1857  
PAGE TWELVE

BELIEVES IT WAS DUE TO INCOMPATIBILITY AND NOTHING ELSE. APPOINTEE WAS SEPARATED FOR QUITE SOME TIME BEFORE HE MARRIED HIS PRESENT WIFE, BARBARA. HE ADVISED HE KNOWS OF NOTHING IN THE APPOINTEE'S BACKGROUND SOCIALLY OR OTHERWISE FROM A STANDPOINT OF PERSONAL BEHAVIOR, MORALS, OR HABITS WHICH WOULD EVER PROVE EMBARRASSING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. HE STATED APPOINTEE IS A MAN WHO WOULD TORTURE HIMSELF TO MAKE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT HIS FACTS ARE CORRECT BEFORE HE REPORTS ANYTHING. HE RECOMMENDED HIM WITHOUT HESITATION FOR THE POSITION TO WHICH HE HAS BEEN APPOINTED.

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PAGE

NY 161-1857

ON AUGUST TWO, ONE NINE SIX FIVE, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK, ADVISED THAT HE HAS BEEN THE APPOINTEE'S  
[REDACTED] THROUGH THE [REDACTED] FOR THE PAST  
SEVERAL YEARS AND CONSIDERS THE APPOINTEE TO BE A VERY  
INTELLIGENT AND GENUINELY SINCERE INDIVIDUAL. [REDACTED]

STATED THAT THE APPOINTEE POSSESSES A CHARACTER ABOVE  
REPROACH AND IS A PERSON WHO ENJOYS AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION  
AMONGST HIS FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES. [REDACTED] DESCRIBED  
THE APPOINTEE AS AN EXCELLENT FAMILY MAN AND THAT THE  
APPOINTEE'S FAMILY ALWAYS ACCOMPANIED HIM ON HIS FOREIGN  
ASSIGNMENTS.

[REDACTED] STATED THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO QUESTION WITH  
RESPECT TO THE APPOINTEE'S MORAL CHARACTER OR LOYALTY TO  
THE UNITED STATES. THE APPOINTEE, ACCORDING TO [REDACTED]

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NY 161-1857

PAGE

CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED IN FAVORABLE TERMS AND HE HIGHLY  
RECOMMENDS THE APPOINTEE FOR A POSITION OF TRUST AND  
CONFIDENCE WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

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PAGE

NY 161-1857

NEIGHBORHOOD

ON AUGUST TWO, ONE NINE SIX FIVE, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT HE WAS ACQUAINTED WITH THE  
APPOINTEE DURING THE TIME THE APPOINTEE RESIDED AT ONE ONE  
NINE NINE PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY. [REDACTED] STATED THAT  
THE APPOINTEE ENJOYED AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION IN THE NEIGH-  
BORHOOD, WAS CONSIDERED TO BE A GOOD FAMILY MAN AND POSSESSED  
A CHARACTER ABOVE REPROACH. [REDACTED] STATED THAT HE KNOWS  
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING OF AN UNFAVORABLE NATURE CONCERNING THE  
APPOINTEE, HAS NO REASON TO QUESTION HIS LOYALTY TO THE  
UNITED STATES AND HIGHLY RANKS THE APPOINTEE FOR A POSITION  
WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. b7c

ON AUGUST TWO, ONE NINE SIX FIVE, [REDACTED]  
ONE ONE NINE NINE PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT HE WAS ACQUAINTED WITH THE APPOINTEE  
UNTIL THE APPOINTEE DISCONTINUED HIS RESIDENCE AT THAT ADDRESS

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NY 161-1857

PAGE

TO ASSUME AN ASSIGNMENT IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM. ██████████  
STATED THAT PRIOR TO THAT TIME THE APPOINTEE ENJOYED AN  
EXCELLENT REPUTATION IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, WOULD BEST BE  
DESCRIBED AS A GOOD FAMILY MAN AND TO HIS KNOWLEDGE WAS  
COMPLETELY LOYAL TO THE UNITED STATES. ██████████ STATED  
THAT HE KNOWS NOTHING OF A DEROGATORY NATURE CONCERNING  
THE APPOINTEE. AND HIGHLY RECOMMENDS THE APPOINTEE FOR A  
POSITION WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

ON AUGUST TWO, ONE NINE SIX FIVE, ██████████  
ONE ONE NINE NINE PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, ADVISED  
THAT THE APPOINTEE, DURING HIS TERM OF RESIDENCE AT THAT  
ADDRESS, WOULD BEST BE DESCRIBED AS A MAN OF EXCELLENT  
CHARACTER AND REPUTATION. ██████████ STATED THAT THE  
APPOINTEE ENJOYED SPENDING MOST OF HIS FREE TIME WITH HIS  
FAMILY AND IS A PERSON ABOUT WHOM HE KNOWS NOTHING OF A

b7c

~~SECRET~~

17

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TXD:ald

9.

~~SECRET~~

NY 161-1857

PAGE

DEROGATORY NATURE. [REDACTED] STATED THAT THE APPOINTEE NEVER MADE ANY STATEMENTS OR COMMITTED ANY ACTS WHICH WOULD MAKE HIM BELIEVE THAT THE APPOINTEE WAS OTHER THAN COMPLETELY LOYAL TO THE UNITED STATES AND HE HIGHLY RECOMMENDS THE APPOINTEE FOR A POSITION WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

[REDACTED] ONE ONE NINE NINE PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, ADVISED THAT THE APPOINTEE WAS A PERSON OF THE HIGHEST MORAL CHARACTER AND ENJOYED AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION. [REDACTED] STATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE IS NOT ACQUAINTED WITH THE APPOINTEE SOCIALLY, HE CONSIDERS HIM TO BE COMPLETELY LOYAL TO THE UNITED STATES AND HIGHLY RECOMMENDS THE APPOINTEE FOR A POSITION WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

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NY 161-1857-

ON AUGUST TWO, INSTANT, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], HOTEL DORSET, THIRTY WEST FIFTY FOURTH  
STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, ADVISED THAT THE APPOINTEE  
RESIDED HERE FOR A COUPLE OF MONTHS IN NINETEEN SIXTY ONE  
[REDACTED] HE COULD NOT FURNISH THE EXACT  
DATES OF THIS RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED] AND HE DID NOT KNOW HIM WELL ENOUGH TO  
COMMENT CONCERNING THE APPOINTEE'S CHARACTER AND LOYALTY  
TO THE UNITED STATES. HE INQUIRED OF OTHERS, BUT [REDACTED]  
COULD LOCATE NO ONE WHO KNEW THE APPOINTEE WELL ENOUGH TO  
COMMENT.

~~SECRET~~

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NY 161-1857-

NY 161-1857-

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~~SECRET~~

NY 161-1857

PAGE

CREDIT AND ARREST

ON JULY TWO NINE, ONE NINE SIX FIVE, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], CREDIT BUREAU OF GREATER NEW YORK, ADVISED  
INVESTIGATIVE CLERK [REDACTED] THAT A CREDIT RECORD  
FOR THE APPOINTEE WAS SATISFACTORY.

ON JULY TWO NINE, ONE NINE SIX FIVE, SPECIAL AGENT  
[REDACTED] CAUSED THE RECORDS OF THE NEW YORK CITY  
POLICE DEPARTMENT TO BE CHECKED BY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] INFORMATION UNIT; [REDACTED] OLD  
RECORD ROOM (ALL OF THE ABOVE OF THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE  
DEPARTMENT); AND [REDACTED] FINGERPRINT BUREAU,  
CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK. NO RECORD COULD  
BE LOCATED FOR THE APPOINTEE [REDACTED]

b7c

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4.

~~SECRET~~

NY 151-1857

PAGE

THERE IS NO MORALS SQUAD ASSOCIATED WITH THE NYCPD,  
THEREFORE, ALL MORALS ARRESTS WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE  
REGULAR POLICE RECORD CHECK.

~~SECRET~~

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5.

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NY 161-1857

PAGE

MISCELLANEOUS

[REDACTED]

b1

ON JANUARY ONE SEVEN, ONE NINE SIX ONE, [REDACTED]

b7D, b2

ADVISED THAT ON [REDACTED] JOHN  
W. CHANCELLOR, CARE OF THE HOTEL DORSET, THREE ZERO WEST  
FIVE FOUR STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, [REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WAS NOT PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED WITH THE  
AFOREMENTIONED JOHN W. CHANCELLOR.

b7D, b2

~~SECRET~~

AC:mld

1.

~~SECRET~~

NY 151-1857

PAGE

ON JULY TWO NINE, ONE NINE SIX FIVE, SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] SEARCHED THE RECORDS OF THE INFORMATION BUREAU OF "THE  
NEW YORK TIMES", TWO TWO NINE WEST FOUR THREE STREET, NEW YORK,  
NEW YORK. THESE RECORDS REFLECT THAT JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR  
MARRIED CONSTANCE HERBERT IN ONE NINE FIVE ZERO [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] THIS MARRIAGE ENDED IN DIVORCE  
BUT NO DATE OR PLACE OF THE DIVORCE WAS GIVEN. IN ONE NINE FIVE  
EIGHT, CHANCELLOR MARRIED BARBARA UPSHAW [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] NO FURTHER PERTINENT  
INFORMATION WAS LOCATED IN THE ABOVE RECORDS.

b7c

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148



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~~BEST COPY AVAILABLE~~

SEVERAL CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS WHO ARE  
ACQUAINTED WITH HOMOSEXUAL ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK  
AREA ADVISED THEY COULD FURNISH NO INFORMATION  
REGARDING APPOINTEE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York  
August 4, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No. NY file 161-1857

~~SECRET~~

Title JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR

Character SPECIAL INQUIRY

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] at New York, dated and captioned as above. *b7c*

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 8/4/65

FROM : [REDACTED] (RUC)

SUBJECT: JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR  
SPECIAL INQUIRY  
WHITE HOUSE

Re Bureau cable to [REDACTED]

Enclosed are four copies of a letterhead memorandum containing the results of an interview conducted with the applicant's [REDACTED] by [REDACTED]

b7c

on 8/3/65.

3 - Bureau (Encs. - 4)  
(1 - Liaison Section)

1 - [REDACTED]  
NWP:elm  
(4)

31

NOT RECORDED  
AUG 9 1965  
[Signature]

5 OCT 8 1965  
5 OCT 7 1965

*na  
8/5/65  
JTC*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# DECODED COPY

AIRGRAM     CABLEGRAM     RADIO     TELETYPE

11:48 PM CDST URGENT 8-4-65 HRF  
 TO DIRECTOR  
 FROM CHICAGO 050117

*M. J. [unclear]  
1258*

JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR, SPI.

RE CHICAGO TELS TO DIRECTOR, AUGUST 4 INSTANT.  
 [REDACTED] ADVISED AUGUST 4 INSTANT THAT IN CONVERSATION  
 WITH TWO "QUEERS" THAT HE IS ACQUAINTED WITH HE MENTIONED  
 THAT APPOINTEE HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO FEDERAL POSITION.  
 INQUIRED OF HIS TWO FRIENDS WHETHER APPOINTEE WAS "QUEER."  
 BOTH ANSWERED "YES, HE IS ONE OF US," BUT NEITHER HAS BEEN  
 "OUT" WITH HIM. BOTH STATED DID NOT KNOW WHOM HE HAD BEEN  
 WITH BUT TRAVELED WITH THE "CROWD."

*b2,  
b7D*

BOTH SAID APPOINTEE HAD BEEN TO THE BLUE DAHLIA IN  
 CHICAGO WHICH IS KNOWN AS A "QUEER JOINT."

*RELATIVE*

INFORMANT SAID CHANCELLOR WAS REFERRED TO AS BELONGING  
 TO THE "HOME CROWD" MEANING HE IS NOT OPEN IN DISPLAYING  
 HIS AFFECTIONS AND DOES SAME ONLY WITH A SELECT GROUP IN  
 SECURE PEACES.

*H*

RECEIVED: 12:47 AM 8-5-65 MLT

*161-4025-43*

NOT RECORDED

3 SEP 29 1965

*1/c destroyed  
JR*

*191*

*all*

*WAC 2 1 30 PM '65*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 3/9/99 BY SP4 bja sb

*#435721*

~~58-807-1065~~  
~~58-807-1065~~  
~~58-807-1065~~

*na-65  
8-4-65  
JMY*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# DECODED COPY

AIRGRAM     CABLEGRAM     RADIO     TELETYPE

6:51 PM CDST URGENT 8-4-65 DRS  
TO DIRECTOR  
FROM CHICAGO 042216-

*Am. [Signature]  
12570*

JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR, SPI.

RE CHICAGO TEL DIRECTOR AUGUST 3, LAST.

[REDACTED] ADVISED ON AUGUST 3, LAST, THAT HE HAD MENTIONED TO "HOMOSEXUAL" FRIENDS ABOUT THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN CHANCELLOR AND ONE HOMOSEXUAL NAMED "JOE LNU" REMARKED HE DID NOT LIKE CHANCELLOR BECAUSE WHEN HE USED TO SEE HIM AT A NORTH SIDE HOMOSEXUAL HANGOUT HE, CHANCELLOR, THOUGHT HE WAS A "BIG WHEEL."

*b2, b7D*

INFORMANT STATED HOMOSEXUALS DO NOT NORMALLY LEARN COMPLETE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THEIR FRIENDS UNLESS ONE TAKES THE OTHER TO HIS RESIDENCE. STATED HE DOES NOT KNOW "JOE LNU" FURTHER BUT WILL ADVISE IF HE LEARNS SUCH. STATED THAT HE, AS WELL AS MOST OF HIS HOMOSEXUAL FRIENDS, FREQUENT KNOWN REGULAR BUSINESSES OR LOCATIONS AND MAKE SUCH KNOWN "MEETS AND DATES" IN THAT MANNER.

INFORMANT SAID CHANCELLOR MAY BE KNOWN TO HOMOSEXUALS BY NAME DUE TO HIS PROMINENCE BUT DOUBTS SERIOUSLY THAT ANY HOMOSEXUALS WILL ADMIT KNOWLEDGE OF CHANCELLOR OR EVEN KNOWING HIM.

*161-4025-44*  
NOT RECORDED

RECEIVED: 8:03 PM RJP

3 SEP 29 1965

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FBI

DELIVERED TO THE DIRECTOR

*ENC 2*  
*1 31 11 22*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/8/99 BY SP4-bja-sk  
#435721

*7-3065*

af<sup>c</sup>

1 - Mr. Young

8/4/65

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC CHICAGO

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR, SPECIAL INQUIRY.

MAKE CERTAIN YOU FURNISH ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION IN FILES OF MUNICIPAL COURT RE ARREST ON MAY TEN NINETEEN FIFTY-ONE, WHICH COURT REFERRED TO/PAGES TWO AND THREE OF URTEL ON JULY THIRTYONE LAST.

J

1614025-45

NOT RECORDED

3 SEP 29 1965

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 4 1965

TELETYPE 3

af

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DHY:jam  
(3)

~~53 OCT 8 1965~~

53 OCT 8 1965

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Return to..... Young 1258

af

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 5 1965  
TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FBI SAN FRAN

1130

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson   | _____ |
| Mr. Belmont  | _____ |
| Mr. Mohr     | _____ |
| Mr. DeLoach  | _____ |
| Mr. Casper   | _____ |
| Mr. Callahan | _____ |
| Mr. Conrad   | _____ |
| Mr. Felt     | _____ |
| Mr. Gale     | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen    | _____ |
| Mr. Sullivan | _____ |
| Mr. Tavel    | _____ |
| Mr. Trotter  | _____ |
| Tele. Room   | _____ |
| Miss Holmes  | _____ |
| Miss Gandy   | _____ |

AM PDST URGENT 8-5-65 MS  
TO DIRECTOR  
FROM SAN FRANCISCO (161-874) 2P

*Mr. DeLoach*  
*1258*

JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR, SPI, BUDED PAST

RE CHICAGO TEL TO BUREAU AUGUST FOUR LAST.

ON AUGUST FIVE INSTANT RECORDS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE  
DEPARTMENT REVIEWED BY IC [REDACTED] DISCLOSED NO RECORD  
FOR APPOINTEE.

b7c

[REDACTED], SAN FRANCISCO  
RETAILERS CREDIT ASSOCIATION, ON AUGUST FIVE INSTANT ADVISED IC  
[REDACTED] THAT HIS RECORDS DISCLOSED THAT AN INQUIRY HAD ~~BEEN~~ NOT RECORDED  
RECEIVED FROM ROBERT KIRK MEN'S STORE ON SEPTEMBER TWO ONE SEP 29 1965  
SIXTYTWO FOR JOHN W. CHANCELLOR AND HIS WIFE BARBARA, RESIDING  
AT ONE ONE NINE NINE PARK AVE., NEW YORK, EMPLOYED AS A CORRES-  
PONDENT BY NBC NEWS. NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WAS CONTAINED IN  
THE FILE.

161-4025-46  
NOT RECORDED

END PAGE ONE

*1c/c destroyed*

*all*

~~53 OCT 7 1965~~  
53 OCT 8 1965

PAGE TWO

ON AUGUST FIVE INSTANT, [REDACTED] SAN MATEO COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE, REDWOOD CITY, CALIF., ADVISED SA [REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED] SHE COULD LOCATE NO RECORD CONCERNING APPOINTEE. IT  
IS NOTED THAT THIS SHERIFF'S OFFICE HAD JURISDICTION AT THE COW  
PALACE WHERE THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION WAS HELD IN  
SIXTYFOUR.

REPORT FOLLOWS.

END

WA... JXM

FBI WASH DC

P

RECEIVED  
AUG 11 1964  
FBI WASH DC

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

|   |                                   |                                     |  |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| REPORTING OFFICE<br><b>CHICAGO</b>              | OFFICE OF ORIGIN<br><b>BUREAU</b> | DATE<br><b>8/5/65</b>               | INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD<br><b>7/28 - 8/5/65</b> |
| TITLE OF CASE<br><b>JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR</b> |                                   | REPORT MADE BY<br><b>[REDACTED]</b> | TYPED BY<br><b>b7c bal</b>                   |
|   |                                   | CHARACTER OF CASE<br><br><b>SPI</b> |  |

**REFERENCES:** Bureau teletypes to Washington Field dated 7/28/65, 7/30/65, and 8/2/65.  
 Bureau teletypes to Chicago dated 8/2/65, 8/3/65, and 8/4/65.  
 Chicago teletypes to Director dated 7/29/65, 7/31/65, 8/2/65, and 8/4/65.  
 Springfield teletype to Chicago dated 7/29/65.  
 New York teletype to Director dated 7/30/65.  
 St. Louis teletype to Director dated 8/2/65.  
 Houston teletype to Director dated 8/3/65.

- P -

**INFORMANTS**

| Source            | Date Contacted          | Contacting Agent     |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>[REDACTED]</b> | 7/29/65, 8/2/65, 8/3/65 | SA <b>[REDACTED]</b> |
| <b>[REDACTED]</b> | 8/2/65, 8/4/65          | SA <b>[REDACTED]</b> |

*b2, b7D*

UNRECORDED FILED IN 105-34074-53-1  
 b7c  
 EXP. 10/7/65

|   |                         |  |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| APPROVED<br><i>[Signature]</i>                                  | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW                               |
| COPIES MADE:<br><br>1 - Bureau (AMSD)<br>1 - Chicago (161-1203) |                         | 161-4025-147<br>NOT RECORDED<br>8 AUG 9 1965<br>OCT 7 1965 |
| Dissemination Record of Attached Report                         |                         | Notations<br><br><i>[Signature]</i>                        |
| Agency  |                         |  |
| Request Recd.   |                         |  |
| Date  | 53 OCT 3 1965           |  |
| By  | 53 OCT 8 1965           |  |

CG 161-1203

The following confidential informants, who are familiar with some homosexual activities in the Chicago area, were contacted on July 29, 1965, with negative results:

| <u>Informant</u>  | <u>Date Contacted</u> | <u>Contacting Agent</u> |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| [REDACTED]  | 7/29/65               | SA [REDACTED]           |
| [REDACTED]  | 7/29/65               | SA [REDACTED]           |
| [REDACTED]  | 8/3/65                | SA [REDACTED]           |
| [REDACTED] of 8/3/65<br>and under<br>consideration as PCI<br>[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]<br>hang out at Willie's Rag Doll,<br>648 North Dearborn Street, Chicago,<br>a reputed "queer" establishment<br>catering to young married<br>homosexuals) |                       | SA [REDACTED]           |

b7D, b2  
b7c  
b6

1  
b7c  
1

LEAD

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will maintain contact with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in an effort to develop additional information relating to homosexual information reported regarding appointee.

b2  
b7D

ADMINISTRATIVE

Inquiry at the Chicago Police Department Pension Board, City Hall, Chicago, on August 3, 1965, through [REDACTED] (requested to be kept confidential) disclosed former Chicago Police officers THORP, BARCAL, WEGNER and GAFFNEY are deceased.

b2,  
b7D  
b6/b7c

CG 161-1203

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are not included in the paragraph relating to contacts with informants who are familiar with some homosexual activities in Chicago. While they are familiar with such activities [REDACTED] has only recently been opened as a PCI and [REDACTED] is being considered for possible development and there has been insufficient contact to date to establish reliability.

b6/b7c  
b7D  
/

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA [REDACTED]  
Date: 8/5/65

Office: CHICAGO

b7c

Field Office File #: 161-1203

Bureau File #:

Title:

JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Birth verified. Attended University of Illinois, but dropped for academic reasons January 25, 1949. No record of attendance at University of Chicago. Withdrew from De Paul Academy March 1, 1944, no reason listed. Employments with "Chicago Sun-Times," National Broadcasting Company (NBC), "Chicago Tribune," and E. H. Sargent and Company, all Chicago, confirmed. Former associates at "Chicago Sun-Times" and NBC state appointee intelligent, reliable, objective reporter, refined, morally sound, loyal to United States. All recommend. One former associate stated "heard" appointee had been arrested by Chicago Police Department as a "peeping tom." Some residences substantiated and favorable. Acquaintances who have personal and professional knowledge of appointee endorse for trusted position. No credit record for appointee and his immediate relatives. No arrest record for appointee's immediate relatives. JOHN CHANCELLOR, born July 14, 1927, Chicago, employed NBC, arrested Chicago Police Department May 10, 1951, for disorderly conduct - "arrest on fire escape at 78 East Elm Street." Discharged May 25, 1951. JOHN W. CHANCELLOR, born July 14, 1927, Chicago, employed NBC, arrested February 11, 1951, for disorderly conduct - found on roof of Ambassador Hotel. Discharged February 13, 1951. Other arrests for JOHN W. CHANCELLOR set out. No warrants outstanding for appointee. Interviews of arresting officers regarding CHANCELLOR set forth. Appointee's marriages and divorce verified. Two Chicago informants state that CHANCELLOR considered to be homosexual but have no first hand knowledge. Information concerning JOHN CHANCELLOR in reference files of "Chicago Daily Tribune" set out.

- P -

CG 161-1203  
RJS:bls

Birth

On July 30, 1965, IC [REDACTED] reviewed Certificate of Birth Number 32594 filed July 22, 1927, which is maintained by the Cook County Bureau of Vital Statistics.

b7c

This record reflected the birth of JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR male, legitimate, on July 14, 1927, at Lying-Inn Hospital to father, ESTILL JOHN CHANCELLOR, 6012 South Park Avenue, white male, age 40, born Litchfield, Kentucky, with occupation as hotel manager, and mother, MOLLIE BARRETT, 6012 South Park Avenue, white female, age 31, born in Ireland and occupation housewife.

CG 161-1203

WJS:MJD

1.

Education

University of Illinois  
Chicago, Illinois

[REDACTED], Registrar's Office, advised from a record card on July 29, 1965, that the appointee had attended this university in the Liberal Arts and Sciences College during the following semesters:

First semester, 1947-1948; Second semester, 1947-1948;  
First semester, 1948-1949

The appointee was granted freshman class honors on January 29, 1948, and placed on scholastic probation on June 9, 1948. On January 25, 1949, he was dropped for academic reasons.

His date of birth is shown as July 14, 1927, Chicago, and his parent is listed as Mrs. MARY CHANCELLOR, Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

The following notation was recorded on the appointee's record: "No transcript, may not re-register till clears with library." b7c

[REDACTED] stated the above notation probably means that while the appointee was at this university he checked a book out of the library and failed to return it.

She stated the appointee's record contains no other information of an unfavorable nature and she cannot suggest any instructors currently here who might recall him.

University of Chicago

It is noted an article appearing in the July 29, 1965, "Chicago Sun-Times" announcing CHANCELLOR's appointment as Director of the Voice of America stated appointee had been a student at the Universities of Chicago and Illinois.

[REDACTED] Registrar's Office, advised SA [REDACTED] on July 30, 1965, she has no record of CHANCELLOR as a former student, either as a full time day student or an evening student.

CG 161-1203

De Paul Academy  
2219 North Kenmore Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

On August 3, 1965, [REDACTED], advised SA [REDACTED] that available records disclose that JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR, born July 14, 1927, residing 1300 North State Street, Chicago, parent Mrs. MARY CHANCELLOR, was admitted to this school in September, 1941, having attended Ogden Grammar School. He attended semesters as follows, according to the record: "1st. 1941; 1st 1942; 2nd 1942; 1st 1943; 2nd 1943". He withdrew from this school on March 1, 1944, no reason being disclosed on the record.

[REDACTED] stated that the record recorded that this student received failing marks in the first semester of 1943 in French and Advanced Algebra and maintained an average grade of "C" during his period of attendance at this school. b7c

On June 12, 1947, this student received a General Education Development Diploma. [REDACTED] stated that this diploma was apparently awarded on the basis that this student passed U. S. Armed Forces Institute Tests of General Education Development, High School Level, as his record indicates. On July 1, 1947, a transcript of his record was sent the University of Illinois.

[REDACTED] stated that nothing of an adverse nature was recorded in the record of this student, that he was not personally acquainted with him, that he was unable to identify classmates of this student, and that he could suggest no instructor presently associated with this school who possibly might recall this student.

CG 161-1203

WJS:MJD

1.

Employments

"Chicago Sun-Times"  
401 North Wabash  
Chicago, Illinois

[REDACTED]  
advised on July 29, 1965, that this paper has no records concerning former employees back in the 1940s or 1950. All these records have been destroyed.

He advised that he personally does not recall the appointee.

[REDACTED], advised on July 29, 1965, that he recalls the appointee working for the old "Sun Times" as a copyboy and then as an apprentice reporter during the period 1948 to 1950. The appointee was subsequently released by the "Sun Times" due to a reduction in force.

[REDACTED] stated that he has followed the appointee's career since the appointee left the "Sun Times" with interest. The appointee always impressed him as being a rather intelligent individual, objective by nature, and with the potential of becoming an excellent reporter.

He stated he has no knowledge of anything derogatory concerning the appointee's moral character, loyalty to the United States Government, or associates. He said he knows the appointee and his first wife were divorced, and, to his knowledge, this divorce was due to incompatibility on their respective parts.

[REDACTED] advised that based on his knowledge of the appointee he would recommend him for a position of trust.

[REDACTED] advised on July 29, 1965, that he recalls the appointee working for this newspaper when it was known as the "Sun Times" back in 1948-1950. The appointee started as a copyboy and later was an apprentice reporter. He was released by the newspaper due to a reduction of force and thereafter became employed by NBC in Chicago.

CG 161-1203

WJS:MJD

2.

[REDACTED] stated that he has always considered the appointee to be a reliable individual, fair minded, and conscientious in his work. He said he had no reason to question the appointee's masculinity although he had "heard" (source unknown) that the appointee at one time had been arrested by the Chicago Police Department as a "peeping tom." [REDACTED] advised that he is not personally aware of whether this information is true or strictly hearsay.

[REDACTED] stated that he personally has no reason to question the applicant's integrity, his patriotism, or his associates. To his knowledge the appointee has always lived within his financial means and partakes of alcoholic beverages in a conservative manner. b7c

[REDACTED] advised since he is older than the appointee that he has never socialized with him to any great extent but still would recommend him for a position of trust.

CG 161-1203

WJS:glp

1.

[REDACTED] advised on July 30, 1965, that he recalls the appointee working for this newspaper in 1948 - 1950, first as a copy boy and then an apprentice reporter. He said he had limited contact with the appointee, as the appointee worked [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said that he had no reason to question the appointee's integrity or his loyalty to the United States Government, and the appointee impressed him as being a rather ambitious, likable, and intelligent young man. He stated he was aware of the fact that the appointee and his first wife were divorced, but has no idea why this divorce was consummated.

[REDACTED] said he has followed the appointee's career in the field of newspaper work and it is his impression the appointee is a dedicated, thorough and objective reporter.

[REDACTED] said that he would endorse the appointee for a position of trust.

[REDACTED] advised on July 30, 1965, that the appointee first worked for this newspaper when it was known as the "Sun Times" in 1948. He worked until 1950, when he was released due to a reduction in force.

[REDACTED] said the appointee, while with this newspaper, performed his job in a very capable manner and was never the subject of any criticism. Due to a difference in their respective ages, he never associated to any extent with the appointee, but on occasion they would have a drink together. The appointee seemed to be able to handle his drinks without any trouble and he has never known him to become intoxicated.

[REDACTED] advised that he is aware of the fact that the appointee had been arrested some time in the early 1950's by the Chicago Police Department, for being on a fire escape in the early hours of the morning. He said he is not personally



CG 161-1203

WJS:glp

3.

In his opinion, the appointee is an excellent newspaper man, objective in his reportings, well versed in the field of radio and television communications, intelligent, and responsible. He is loyal to the United States Government and associates with persons of reputable character. [REDACTED] said he would recommend the appointee for a position of trust.

[REDACTED]

Also, the appointee's mother, MOLLIE CHANCELLOR, is currently living at Villa St. Cyril - 1111 St. John's Avenue, in Highland Park, Illinois. He said this is a rest home.

b7c  
|

CG 161-1203  
MFD:jmn

National Broadcasting Company  
Merchandise Mart  
Chicago, Illinois

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED] advised from records that JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR, who was born in 1927, at Chicago, Illinois, was employed on May 8, 1950, as News Writer in the News and Special Events Department. From then until November 30, 1956, his responsibilities were local but in 1956, he was promoted to NBC newsman for the network. He later was assigned to duty in Europe, exact date not being listed but probably 1958. He worked in Vienna, London, Moscow, and Brussels. The exact dates of his employment in these various locations are not listed. It is also indicated that between his assignments in Europe, he served a tour of duty back in the United States. The records indicate that in 1963 he returned to the United States and has been employed to the present time.

[REDACTED] stated that his record was satisfactory. [REDACTED] further related that he has met CHANCELLOR on only one occasion but has heard about him and known about him for some time. He stated that CHANCELLOR is well regarded at NBS.

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED] NBC News, advised that he has been acquainted with CHANCELLOR since 1950. He stated that [REDACTED] was at that time on [REDACTED] and during that time, their friendship was on a long range basis. He stated he has known CHANCELLOR well since [REDACTED]. He stated that he knows CHANCELLOR mostly on a professional basis but stated he has socialized with him to the extent of attending parties and having dinner with him. He stated he has never visited in CHANCELLOR's home.

2  
CG 161-1203  
MFD:jmn

He stated that from his knowledge of CHANCELLOR, CHANCELLOR has an excellent reputation, is a hard worker, reliable, refined, and a fair and objective reporter.

[REDACTED] stated that from his knowledge of CHANCELLOR, he regards CHANCELLOR as a man of excellent morals, a moderate drinker, and man who has never belonged to any questionable organizations, and a man who is loyal to the United States. He stated he has never known CHANCELLOR to be in trouble of any kind and declared he would recommend him for a position of trust.

[REDACTED] stated that the man he believes who would know CHANCELLOR best was CHANCELLOR's [REDACTED] at NBC, [REDACTED], who is presently the [REDACTED] Washington, D.C.

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED] NBC News Bureau, advised he has been acquainted with CHANCELLOR since 1950. He stated that CHANCELLOR has always had an excellent reputation at NBC as a good reporter and a hard worker. He stated he has never known CHANCELLOR to be a member of any questionable organizations and regards him as a loyal American. He declared he would recommend CHANCELLOR for a position of trust.

[REDACTED] stated that he regards CHANCELLOR as a man who is completely masculine and a man of good moral character. He stated that CHANCELLOR has always been only a moderate drinker but he recalls that back in approximately 1951, CHANCELLOR was arrested on a fire escape at the Ambassador East Hotel. He stated he does not recall the exact charge but believes that CHANCELLOR had been drinking at the time. He stated that he recalls that CHANCELLOR was again arrested a short time later on a similar charge.

3  
CG 161-1203  
MFD:jmn

[REDACTED] explained that at that time, CHANCELLOR and his first wife apparently were not getting along and he believes that this was the cause of CHANCELLOR's drinking. He stated that he does not believe that CHANCELLOR had been drunk on these occasions and stated he never knew CHANCELLOR to drink to excess. He stated he does not know the reason for CHANCELLOR's divorce from his first wife other than that they just could not get along together. He stated that he does not regard these events as too serious inasmuch as CHANCELLOR has continued to be employed at NBC and he has continued to do an excellent job.

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED] NBC News, advised that he first met CHANCELLOR when CHANCELLOR was employed at the "Chicago Sun-Times" newspaper. He stated that in approximately 1950, CHANCELLOR was laid off due to a reduction in force. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that he got CHANCELLOR the job at NBC through [REDACTED]. He stated that CHANCELLOR has a tremendously inquisitive mind and he would rate him first rate professionally. He stated CHANCELLOR has worked on many tough assignments and has always done an excellent job. b7c

[REDACTED] stated that he regards CHANCELLOR as a man of morally sound character, a reputable person, and a loyal American. He stated he has never known him to belong to any questionable organizations. He declared that from his knowledge of CHANCELLOR, he would recommend him for a position of trust.

[REDACTED] stated that he has never known CHANCELLOR to drink to excess and stated he has never known him to drink on the job. [REDACTED] declared, however, that he recalls that in approximately 1951, CHANCELLOR was arrested on the fire escape at the Ambassador East Hotel. He stated he does not know the exact charge. As he recalls, CHANCELLOR had

4  
CG 161-1203  
MFD:jmn

been drinking and he recalls that he had heard there had been some charge against him indicating that he was a "peeping tom."

[REDACTED] stated that he does not put any belief in this charge and explained that the Ambassador East had at one time been home to CHANCELLOR inasmuch as CHANCELLOR's mother was formerly the head housekeeper at the Ambassador East Hotel. He stated he recalls that CHANCELLOR had been arrested on another occasion shortly after the first and he believes he had also been drinking at that time.

[REDACTED] related that CHANCELLOR and his first wife, CONSTANCE, had not been getting along at that time and he believes that this may have been the cause of CHANCELLOR's drinking. He stated he does not know what the differences were between CHANCELLOR and his first wife other than plain incompatibility. He said there was no scandal attached to the divorce, but in his mind, it was somewhat of a mystery because they seemed to be getting along well together and then suddenly indicated that they were getting a divorce. b7c

[REDACTED] stated that CHANCELLOR never mentioned these arrests to him but stated that NBC was aware of them and it is his understanding that CHANCELLOR felt he would be fired. The judgment was made, however, that he should stay on the job and [REDACTED] stated that it has proved to be a proper decision inasmuch as CHANCELLOR has done an excellent job. [REDACTED] stated that it was CHANCELLOR's [REDACTED] He stated that [REDACTED] Washington, D.C.

[REDACTED] also stated that CHANCELLOR formerly covered the campaign of ADLAI STEVENSON when STEVENSON was running for Governor and during that time became well acquainted with WILLARD WIRTZ. He stated that Mr. WIRTZ is now the Secretary of Labor and should know CHANCELLOR well.

5  
CG 161-1203  
MFD:jmn

[REDACTED] stated that up until a few years ago, CHANCELLOR's mother was the head housekeeper at the Conrad Hilton Hotel. He stated that she is now in a nursing home in a northern suburb of Chicago, the exact location of which he does not know. [REDACTED] stated that CHANCELLOR's father has been dead for many years and that CHANCELLOR grew up with his mother and has always been very solicitous about her welfare.

[REDACTED] stated that although CHANCELLOR has had no administrative experience, he feels that his appointment to the Voice of America is a good one inasmuch as he is an excellent reporter whose professional integrity is above reproach. He stated he has always been loyal to NBC and he believes he will be loyal to anyone for whom he works. [REDACTED] reiterated that he would recommend CHANCELLOR for a position of trust.

b7c

1.  
CG 161-1203  
HRE:csm

Chicago Tribune  
435 North Michigan  
Chicago, Illinois

On August 3, 1965, [REDACTED] Personnel Office, advised that her records reflect that JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR was employed as a copy boy from February 19, 1944, to March 6, 1944, as a part-time employee and from March 6, 1944, to April 9, 1944, as a full-time employee. No reason was given for his termination. [REDACTED] stated that if he had been discharged or if there was something adverse in respect to his termination, there would have been some notation regarding this. She advised that according to the employment records, he was born July 14, 1927, in Chicago, Illinois, had Social Security Number 358-14-4131, and resided at 1300 North State Street, Chicago. He indicated he had three years of high school. He listed his prior employments as War Department - Ordnance; Otto - Commercial Photography; E. H. Sargents - Chemicals; and Daily News - Dispatch. No dates, places, or other information was given regarding the above employments. b7c

[REDACTED] stated that she could suggest no one who would recall JOHN CHANCELLOR in respect to his employment as a copy boy because the personnel of the editorial department has changed completely since 1944.

Otto - Commercial Photography

A check of the Illinois Bell Telephone Directories, Chicago City and Suburban, dated 1965-66 on August 3, 1965, revealed no listing for the above captioned commercial establishment.

"Daily News" - Dispatch

[REDACTED]  
"Chicago Sun-Times," 401 North Wabash Avenue, Chicago,

CG 161-1207

advised on August 3, 1965, that all the personnel records concerning former employees of the "Daily News" in the 1940s have been stored in a warehouse which other records and would be "exceedingly" difficult to locate, if located at all.

CG 161-1203

HHJ:mcl

1

Newberry Hotel  
817 North Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois

On August 3, 1965, [REDACTED] Newberry Hotel, 817 North Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois, advised SA [REDACTED] that the hotel maintains no original registration records other than for the preceding four years as required by Illinois Law. She stated this hotel used to be very fashionable; however, at the present time the tenants in general are composed of individuals living on Social Security, Railroad Retirement or Welfare. She stated there is no one employed or presently residing here as a tenant who was here in 1944.

Stevens Hotel  
700 South Michigan Avenue  
Apartment 1422  
Chicago, Illinois

On August 3, 1965, [REDACTED] Conrad Hilton Hotel, 720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, advised SA [REDACTED] he has been employed in this hotel for the past [REDACTED] years. [REDACTED] stated that JOHN W. CHANCELLOR [REDACTED]. He stated that MOLLIE BARRETT, the former Executive Housekeeper here in this hotel, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that he recalls that the appointee formerly resided in Room 1422 for a short period of time after his mother was hired in early 1944. He stated his mother occupied Rooms 1423 and 1424. Prior to the time the appointee and his mother came to live here, the appointee was a frequent visitor in [REDACTED] apartment.

[REDACTED] stated the Stevens Hotel was operated as one of the Hilton Hotels until 1951 when the name was formally changed to the Conrad Hilton Hotel.

[REDACTED] stated that to his knowledge the appointee has never been involved in any difficulty. He is an individual of the highest character, morals, reputation, and associates. He is a very conscientious and dedicated individual who prior

CG 161-1203

HHJ:mcl

2

to his employment with NBC had been employed as a copyboy with the "Chicago Sun-Times." He stated the only thing which in his opinion might reflect adversely upon the appointee was the fact he had been divorced from his first wife. He added he had no knowledge of why the appointee and his first wife had been unable to "make a go of it." [REDACTED] stated he would highly recommend the appointee for a position of trust and felt he would do an excellent job in any position in which he was placed.

On August 3, 1965, [REDACTED] Personnel, Conrad Hilton Hotel, advised that payroll records reflect that MOLLIE BARRETT, the appointee's mother, was hired on March 1, 1944. He stated he was unable to locate the personnel file for Mrs. BARRETT which might have noted that her son had resided in the hotel with her. He stated Mrs. BARRETT retired three or four years ago and is presently in the Villa St. Cyril, Nursing Home, 1111 St. Johns Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois.

Brentano's Book Store  
29 South Wabash  
Chicago, Illinois

On August 3, 1965, [REDACTED] Kroch's and Brentano's Inc., 29 South Wabash, Chicago, Illinois, advised SA [REDACTED] their personnel records which do not go back to 1944, do not reveal a record of employment for one JOHN W. CHANCELLOR.

[REDACTED] telephonically contacted [REDACTED] who is the only individual presently employed, might have been acquainted with the appointee in 1944. [REDACTED] advised that the appointee's name was unfamiliar to him.

CG 161-1203  
RLA:DJS/bls

Ambassador Hotel (East)  
1300 North State Street  
Chicago, Illinois

On August 3, 1965, [REDACTED] Ambassador Hotel, 1300 North State Street, Chicago, Illinois, advised that this hotel has no record of the appointee's past employment or residence. He related that for many years a floral shop was operated in the hotel by an AUDREY, last name unknown, who closed the shop approximately two years ago. [REDACTED] did not know the present whereabouts of this woman, nor did he know of any present employee of the hotel who would recall the appointee. He also advised he had no records from which to determine any prior residence of the appointee at this hotel.

Windsor Theater  
1229 North Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois

[REDACTED] stated the Windsor Theater used to be located in the 1200 block of North Clark Street, Chicago, but was torn down about 12 years ago in a reclamation program instituted by the city of Chicago government.

b7c

CG 161-1203

MAM:kzh

1

E.H. Sargent and Company  
4647 West Foster Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

On August 3, 1965, [REDACTED] advised SA [REDACTED] that his records reflect that JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR, born February 14, 1925, residence 1300 North State Street, was hired on June 15, 1942, as a packing clerk in the warehouse. CHANCELLOR resigned August 4, 1942, indicating a return to school. [REDACTED] stated there was no derogatory information regarding CHANCELLOR in the record and he would appear eligible for rehire. [REDACTED] could suggest no one currently employed who would recall CHANCELLOR. A prior employment for the period August, 1941 to September, 1941, was shown as Midland Fabrics, Chicago, Illinois. b7c

Midland Fabrics  
Chicago, Illinois

A review of the current Chicago and suburban telephone directories dated 1965-66 on August 3, 1965, failed to reveal a listing for Midland Fabrics. The directory contained a listing for Midland Curtain and Drapery Company, Incorporated, 3708 West Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Inquiry at the Midland Curtain and Drapery Company on August 3, 1965, revealed this firm was never known as Midland Fabrics and that name was unknown.

CG 161-1203  
WJS:bls

Neighborhoods

Park Dearborn Hotel  
1260 North Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois

[REDACTED] advised on August 4, 1965, that his ledger sheets showed that on January 20, 1958, a JAMES CHANCELLOR-[REDACTED] resided in this hotel. Immediately under these two names were the names Mr. and Mrs. JAMES CHANCELLOR.

He said his records would indicate they only resided in this hotel until sometime in February, 1958, as they were on a short term rental basis.

[REDACTED] said he has no other records for CHANCELLOR, does not personally recall CHANCELLOR and has no idea of the former manager's location. He said that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of this hotel, might recall CHANCELLOR.

On August 4, 1965, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] both advised although they have been living in this hotel for at least the past ten years they do not personally have any knowledge of a Mr. CHANCELLOR or [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Shore Crest Hotel, 420 West Wrightwood Avenue, Chicago, advised on August 5, 1965, that she was the [REDACTED] of the Park Dearborn Hotel, 1260 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, in 1958.

She said she recalls the appointee and his wife, the [REDACTED], living in the hotel from about January to June of 1958. To her knowledge he left because his company had transferred him to Europe.

While residing at the Park Dearborn Hotel the appointee and his wife were excellent tenants who paid their rent on time, and caused no trouble for anyone. She said they did not associate with any of the other tenants in the hotel.

CG 161-1203  
RJS:bls

[REDACTED]  
Chicago, Illinois

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED] of captioned address, advised she has not lived there long enough to have known JOHN CHANCELLOR. She said the [REDACTED] is [REDACTED].

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED], Oak Park, Illinois, advised he has [REDACTED] only since [REDACTED], and all of the present tenants have come in since then. He said JOHN CHANCELLOR has not lived there since he has [REDACTED].

1320 North Astor Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

[REDACTED]  
Browne and Storch Realty, Inc., 201 East Ohio Street, Chicago, advised on July 29, 1965, that this company handles the apartment building at 1320 North Astor Avenue.

[REDACTED] said this company has no records available for persons formerly residing in that building during the 1940s and early 1950s.

He said he could not suggest anyone presently residing at 1320 North Astor Avenue who might recall the appointee.

b7c

61-1203  
jmn/bls

maintances

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, advised that he has been acquainted with CHANCELLOR since approximately [REDACTED]. He explained that CHANCELLOR at that time was [REDACTED]

He stated that during those years, he did not pay attention to CHANCELLOR inasmuch as CHANCELLOR was quite [REDACTED]. He stated that [REDACTED] he became friendly with CHANCELLOR and explained that for a while, they worked together on the "Chicago Sun-Times" staff. He stated that later, CHANCELLOR went to work for NBC.

He stated that he was acquainted with CHANCELLOR's first wife, but advised that he never knew the reason for their divorce. He stated there was never any scandal involved in this divorce and apparently it was just a case where they could not get along.

He stated he has always regarded CHANCELLOR as a man of excellent moral character and would describe him as a moderate drinker, inasmuch as he has never known him to drink to excess. He stated that to his knowledge, CHANCELLOR has never been in any trouble and was never arrested. He never knew him to belong to any questionable organizations and regards him as a loyal American. He declared that he would recommend him for a position of trust.

[REDACTED] stated that in recent years even though he feels his friendship with CHANCELLOR has been fairly constant, it has been on a somewhat irregular basis. He stated that he attributes this to the fact that CHANCELLOR spent some time in Europe and has also been in Washington and comes to Chicago only occasionally. He stated that

2  
CG 161-1203  
MFD:jmn

when CHANCELLOR does come to Chicago, he visits [REDACTED] and his wife and he related that in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] visited CHANCELLOR and CHANCELLOR's second wife in London. He explained that CHANCELLOR's second marriage has been a warm, steady, and reliable association and has been, in his opinion, a good influence on CHANCELLOR. b7c

[REDACTED] reiterated that he would recommend CHANCELLOR for a position of trust.

CG 161-1203

JCP:pma

1

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Conrad Hilton Hotel, 720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, furnished the following information:

He has been employed at the Conrad Hilton Hotel since [REDACTED] and was formerly [REDACTED] of the hotel. The appointee's mother served as executive housekeeper for many years and resided in the hotel [REDACTED] does not recall the appointee having resided in the hotel, but it is quite possible that he lived with his mother [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] has met the appointee on several occasions when the appointee visited with his mother. He said the appointee impressed him as being a person of good reputation, high moral standards, honesty and integrity. He said that he had no reason to question the appointee's loyalty to the United States, and that he had no knowledge of the appointee having been involved in any incident which would reflect adversely upon him.

[REDACTED] said the appointee's mother is a person of strong moral character and excellent reputation. He said that she had reached an advanced age and was unable to care for herself properly; however, she wished to remain in the Chicago area, and the appointee placed his mother in a home for elderly persons in Highland Park about two years ago.

[REDACTED] said the appointee has earned an excellent reputation in the news media profession, and he believed the appointee is well suited for the position for which he is being considered. [REDACTED] said that on the basis of limited association with the appointee, he has no reservations about recommending the appointee for a position of trust with the federal government.

b7c

1.

On July 31, 1965, [REDACTED], Evanston, Illinois, advised SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that she has known the appointee and his ex-wife, [REDACTED] for approximately [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] years. She stated she became acquainted with them through her [REDACTED] who was a friend of the appointee.

[REDACTED] stated that at that time the group of people the appointee and his wife associated with were all poor, young, and struggling.

She stated the appointee and his wife separated several years prior to their divorce, which was obtained on the grounds of desertion in order to satisfy Illinois Statutes. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. She stated the appointee and his wife were both young, ambitious, and impatient, and really had not worked to make a success of their marriage. There was no scandal attached to the divorce.

[REDACTED] stated she was aware the appointee had been arrested on the firescape of the Ambassador East Hotel many years previous. As she recalled, the appointee had resided in this hotel where his mother had been an executive housekeeper. The appointee had grown-up in the neighborhood and she felt his presence on the hotel firescape was possibly due to "over indulgence" of alcoholic beverages. She stated it was entirely reasonable for the appointee to be out during the early morning hours because his work at NBC often required him to work until midnight or later.

[REDACTED] advised she would unhesitatingly recommend the appointee as an individual of excellent character, reputation, and associates. She stated she had no knowledge of the appointee having been subsequently arrested on any other occasion or ever having been involved in any incident which if made known would reflect adversely upon him. She stated she considered him to be a loyal American and an individual who strongly believed in our democratic form of government. She added she considered him to be an experienced news reporter and would highly recommend him for a position of trust with the Federal Government.

CG 165-1203  
HHJ:BAS

2.

[redacted] stated that [redacted] who had  
also [redacted]  
[redacted] is presently out of the country. She  
stated that [redacted]

[redacted] She added that she believed  
the appointee had within the past few years placed his  
mother in a home for the aged in Highland Park, Illinois.  
This was due to the fact she was of advanced age and was  
unable to properly care for herself.

1  
b7c

HHJ/mao

CG 161-1203

1

On August 2, 1965, [REDACTED] Chicago, Illinois, advised SA [REDACTED] he was formerly a television [REDACTED] with the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) here in Chicago. [REDACTED] stated he wished it to be known before starting the interview that he has [REDACTED] and he did not know if he would be able to recall all dates and specific incidents that might be asked of him.

[REDACTED] stated he became conscientiously aware of the appointee in 1948 or 1949 when a change in the NBC news staff occurred. It became necessary for [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] program. After looking over the available [REDACTED], he chose the [REDACTED]. He stated that although the appointee was the newest man on the NBC news staff [REDACTED]. He seemed to be alert, able to learn, and learn fast. From then until [REDACTED] in the summer of [REDACTED], he and the appointee [REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED] advised the appointee's father was dead, the appointee was residing alone, [REDACTED]

HEJ/mao  
CG 161-1203  
2

Sometime during this period, the exact date he cannot recall, the appointee married [REDACTED]. For some reason which has never been known to him, this marriage never worked out, and they finally obtained a divorce. Subsequently, the appointee married his present wife, [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] stated that to his knowledge the appointee has only been arrested on one occasion and that was many years ago. As he recalls, the appointee had been visiting his mother who was the housekeeper at the Ambassador East Hotel. Something had happened that night in the hotel and a search by the police revealed the appointee hiding on the roof. No wrongdoing could ever be proved, however, the appointee was still made to appear in court. The judge did not feel he was guilty and advised the appointee that if he could obtain letters of reference from three individuals he would release him.

[REDACTED] stated the appointee is an individual of the highest character, morals, and reputation. He is very dedicated and conscientious and has high standards of ethics. He added that in conversations with [REDACTED] they had decided the only thing which might cause the appointee to lose or resign from his appointment with the Voice of America would be for his refusal to "color the news" as had evidentially been requested of his two predecessors.

HHJ/mao  
CG 161-1203

3

 advised the appointee knows radio and television "perfectly" and is also acquainted with newspapers. He stated he felt the appointee would do an excellent job in the position to which he has been appointed. He added he highly recommended him as a loyal American who has never been associated with any organizations which possibly might be considered subversive in their nature. b7c

CG 165-1203  
HHJ:BAS

1.

On August 2, 1965

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Chicago, Illinois, advised  
SA [REDACTED] have known  
the appointee for the past [REDACTED] years.

[REDACTED] stated she became acquainted with  
the appointee when her [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] She stated her [REDACTED] who at the time  
[REDACTED] to the fact he felt he was the most  
[REDACTED] and was intelligent, alert, and ambitious.  
The appointee [REDACTED] though he was the newest  
man on the NBC news staff. She stated her [REDACTED] proceeded  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated the appointee is "good all  
the way through". He is dependable, honest, dedicated,  
and conscientious. He always plays it "straight down the  
line". He works well with his co-workers and instills  
confidence in them. b7c

[REDACTED] stated the only thing that worried  
her is the fact that the appointee is a newsman and not a  
"propagandist".

[REDACTED] advised she was aware the appointee  
had been arrested on one occasion, but stated she was not  
familiar with the circumstances surrounding the arrest.  
She added the appointee has been divorced, but to her knowledge  
there was no scandal attached to it. In conclusion, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] stated she would unhesitatingly recommend the appointee  
as a loyal American of excellent character, morals, and  
reputation. She stated that to her knowledge the appointee  
has never belonged to any organizations which might be  
considered subversive in their nature.

CG 161-1203

JCP:pma

2

On August 2, 1965, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], "Chicago Sun Times," residing at  
[REDACTED], Illinois, furnished the  
following information:

He became acquainted with the appointee about [REDACTED] years ago when [REDACTED] was a [REDACTED] and the appointee was a copy boy at the "Chicago Sun Times." One of the appointee's duties as a copy boy was to receive telephone calls from the reporters when they were contacting the newspaper. As a result, [REDACTED] had frequent contact with the appointee and came to know him well. The appointee was employed at the "Chicago Sun Times" for only a brief period when he left and joined the staff of CLIFTON UTLEY's television program in Chicago. [REDACTED] does not remember the circumstances of the appointee's leaving the "Sun Times," however, he is certain the appointee was in good standing with the newspaper when he left.

While the appointee was working at the "Sun Times," he was arrested by the Chicago Police Department for "loitering on the roof" of the Ambassador East Hotel. When the appointee was arrested, the captain of the police precinct office who is now deceased had [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said there was some question about the appointee's actions on the hotel roof; however, it was never definitely established what he was doing there. [REDACTED] said that the appointee's explanation of his presence on the hotel roof was that his mother had been employed at the Ambassador East Hotel and he had grown up in the hotel. The appointee had stated that he had wanted to return to his childhood home, and for that reason had gone to the hotel. [REDACTED] said that the appointee's supervisors with the newspaper had accepted the appointee's explanation and [REDACTED] has no knowledge of any action being taken against the appointee by the police department.



CG 161-1203

JCP:pma

4

appointee will prove to be an asset to the federal government and he highly recommends the appointee for a position of trust with the federal government.

██████████ said that he is well acquainted with the appointee's first wife, ██████████, who was ██████████

██████████ He said that ██████████ and the appointee were divorced under amicable circumstances; however, ██████████ is not aware of the details of the divorce. He said that he would occasionally ██████████

██████████ said that during his association with the appointee, he did not observe the appointee in an intoxicated condition. He said that if the appointee drinks, he would do so on a social basis only. ██████████ said that he has no knowledge of the appointee having been associated with any persons or organizations of questionable reputation, and that he has confidence in the appointee's loyalty to the United States.

b7c

CG 161-1203

JCP:MJD-

1.

On August 3, 1965, [REDACTED] Illinois, [REDACTED] "Chicago Sun-Times", furnished the following information to SA [REDACTED]:

He had become acquainted with appointee about [REDACTED] years ago but does not remember the specific dates nor the chronology of events. The appointee had been an employee of the old "Chicago Sun" which had a large television and radio operation. The appointee had been working on the CLIFTON UTLEY television program and one of his duties had been to be present in the newspaper's editorial department to obtain the latest news for UTLEY's program. The appointee had also worked for the newspaper as an ad employee of the "Chicago Sun-Times", but was released by the newspaper during a reduction in force. The newspaper had tried to retain its older employees so the appointee had been released because of his youthful age at that time.

[REDACTED] vaguely recalls the appointee having been involved in an episode of some kind while employed by the newspaper. There was some question about the appointee being involved in a possible "peeping tom" incident, but the matter did not come into sharp focus and did not involve the newspaper. [REDACTED] said the incident did not break into any public scandal and he does not recall whether or not the appointee was actually arrested or brought to trial. [REDACTED] said that the appointee had a good explanation for his action and that while he does not remember the detail of the explanation the appointee's supervisors at the newspaper had accepted and had been satisfied with his offered explanation.

[REDACTED] is acquainted with the appointee's first wife, [REDACTED], who formerly [REDACTED]. He does not remember the details of the divorce, but presumes it was a case of two persons not being able to get along with each other. He said the divorce had been under amicable circumstances and had not attracted any unfavorable attention.

CG 161-1203

JCP:MJD

2.

The appointee has had a good career since he left the "Sun-Times." He has had many, varied experiences, has traveled widely and has held responsible positions. [REDACTED] considers the appointee to be a responsible, trustworthy person. He has confidence in the appointee's loyalty to the United States and would trust him with classified information.

[REDACTED] said that he has had only occasional contact with the appointee during recent years. During his earlier association with the appointee, he had no reason to question the appointee's moral character or his personal conduct. He said that he has no reason not to recommend the appointee for a position of trust with the Federal Government.

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b7c  
1

CG 161-1203

WJS:glp

1.

[REDACTED], Chicago, Illinois, advised on August 2, 1965, that he has been acquainted with the appointee on a limited basis since 1948, when both had been employed by the "Sun Times". He said that he considers the appointee to be a morally sound individual, and well versed in the field of reporting media, and a competent, capable newspaper man. To his knowledge he has always been objective and conscientious in his responsibilities in the reporting field. There is no reason to question his loyalty to the United States Government, or his associates.

[REDACTED] said that he is aware that the appointee was arrested on the fire escape of a hotel in 1951 by the Chicago Police Department. To his knowledge there were no moral implications involved in this arrest, and he personally believes the appointee was "probably" intoxicated at the time. He also stated at that time the appointee and his wife were going through marital difficulties, and it was possible this placed an extra burden or strain on him.

[REDACTED] said he would definitely endorse the appointee for the position that the President of the United States nominated him.

CG 161-1203

RFP:flk

1

[REDACTED] Arlington Heights, Illinois, advised on August 4, 1965, he first became acquainted with appointee during a two month assignment he had as a writer for the [REDACTED] to cover the integration at Central High School at Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957. During his two month assignment he stayed at a motel in Little Rock at which a number of other news reporters were staying. Appointee was also staying at that motel and was employed at that time by NBC News. He does not recall if appointee was there during the entire two month period, however, he became impressed by his ability as a news reporter. Appointee talked and acted as an upstanding citizen of the United States and appeared to be an excellent representative of the news media. He subsequently met appointee several times in the Chicago area on news stories or at an occasional party arranged by a person of interest to the news media. He did not become socially acquainted with appointee and does not know any of his associates. Appointee appeared to be of good moral and personal character and he never had any reason to question his loyalty to the United States Government. He has absolutely no information of a derogatory nature concerning appointee and he would recommend him for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

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b7c

CG 161-1203

RKM:bls

On August 5, 1965, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Lake Forest, Illinois, [REDACTED]  
National Broadcasting System, Chicago, Illinois, advised  
SA [REDACTED] as follows:

His first recollection of JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR was as a very bright young man with some journalistic experience in the News Department of NBC, Chicago, in the early 1950s, also in the early days of television.

CHANCELLOR was assigned to a program called Night Desk wherein they tried to do on-the-spot televising and broadcasting of news in the making. While so assigned, there was an instance of a policeman being shot at an elevated station. The manhunt ensued, and the killer was trapped in a theater but shot his way out. He was again located this time in an apartment, and CHANCELLOR, his driver and mobile unit chanced to arrive there shortly thereafter. CHANCELLOR took some coverage back of an automobile and broadcast an eyewitness account of the bullet ridden affray leading to the capture of the killer. He did such a good job in a situation of personal danger that he caught the attention of his superiors. b7c

Later, dates not recalled, he was transferred to New York and later worked in London. [REDACTED] followed appointee's career after he left Chicago by reason of seeing him in New York when there on business trips and thereafter hearing of him through mutual acquaintances.

He sent appointee a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] never had any outside or social contact with appointee; recalls nothing of his background prior to NBC and never knew his family. He has a hazy idea appointee was married once and that this marriage broke up, but he has no recollection of anything in connection with this dissolution which would reflect against appointee. He has never known appointee to be in any trouble with law enforcement or to have ever been arrested. If there were any boyhood pranks in his past, he is believed to have outgrown them and has become a "pretty solid guy". There is no question of his good morals. He is patriotic and loyal to

CG 161-1203  
RKM:bls

this country. He has never been known to be involved in any organizations that might not be in the best interests of this nation. He is, in fact, a "middle of the roader" with, of course, "sympathy for the underdog".

As to his ability, CHANCELLOR is a talented and methodical person who thinks before he talks, who knows his way around, who is a person no one pushes around and who does an outstanding job of independent, objective reporting.

[REDACTED] said that appointee is the best possible choice for the job, and he recommends him without reservation.

b7c

CG 161-1203

WJS:flk

1.

[REDACTED]  
Chicago, Illinois, advised on August 4, 1965, that  
[REDACTED]  
of 1951 concerning an individual on the fire escape outside  
[REDACTED] Subsequently, this individual  
turned out to be the appointee.

[REDACTED] said he had  
of May 9, 1951 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
he saw the figure of a person [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] on the fire escape facing the window on the  
third floor. This person remained in that position for  
[REDACTED]

The Chicago police apprehended this person and  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] that he was not personally acquainted with this  
individual [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
person whose identity was revealed as JOHN CHANCELLOR.

[REDACTED] said to his knowledge CHANCELLOR  
had no binoculars on his possession nor was he armed nor did  
he see him attempt to forcibly enter any apartment while on  
the fire escape.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
CHANCELLOR as CHANCELLOR was an individual of good character.  
[REDACTED]

CG 161-1203

WJS:flk

2.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

to his knowledge CHANCELLOR was not armed at the time of his arrest nor did he see him try to enter any of the apartments.

He said He does not recall what happened to CHANCELLOR but believes he was discharged.

He said prior to this incident he never had any association with CHANCELLOR and since that incident has not associated with him on any basis.

[REDACTED] said that to his knowledge CHANCELLOR was not intoxicated at the time of his apprehension and it is quite possible that he was on the fire escape "peeping" in apartment windows.

[REDACTED] said he has no first hand knowledge that CHANCELLOR is other than a normal, healthy, masculine individual, but has heard stories (person unknown) that indicate that CHANCELLOR may have homosexual tendencies.

b7c

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CG 161-1203  
WJS:cle

Credit and Arrest

On July 29, 1965, [REDACTED] Chicago Credit Bureau, Inc., advised IC [REDACTED] that her files contained no records identifiable with either the appointee JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR, the appointee's father, ESTIL MARION CHANCELLOR, mother, MOLLIE CHANCELLOR nee BARRETT, who is known as Mrs. ESTIL CHANCELLOR [REDACTED]

On July 29, 1965, personnel of the Bureau of Records and Communications, Chicago Police Department, advised IC [REDACTED] that their files contain no records identifiable with any of the appointee's [REDACTED]

Chicago Police Department personnel also advised that their files reflect an arrest on May 10, 1951, at 2:10 AM, for one JOHN CHANCELLOR on the charge of disorderly conduct. A further explanation of the reason for arrest was given as, "Arrest on fire escape at 78 East Elm Street". The disposition was given as discharged on May 25, 1951. The arresting officers were listed as " BARCAL, [REDACTED], GAFFNEY, [REDACTED]"

As of May 10, 1951, CHANCELLOR was described as follows:

|         |                  |
|---------|------------------|
| Name    | JOHN CHANCELLOR  |
| Address | 30 East Division |
| Sex     | Male             |
| Age     | 23               |
| Weight  | 200              |

2  
CG 161-1203  
WJS:cle

|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Height                    | 6'                        |
| Race                      | White                     |
| Complexion                | Light                     |
| Build                     | Medium                    |
| Eyes                      | Blue                      |
| Hair                      | Brown                     |
| Marital Status            | Married                   |
| Date of birth             | July 14, 1927             |
| Place of birth            | Chicago, Illinois         |
| Occupation                | Reporter                  |
| Place of employment       | National Broadcasting Co. |
| Social Security<br>Number | 358-14-4131               |

Chicago Police Department records also reflect an arrest for JOHN W. CHANCELLOR on February 11, 1951, at 1:15 AM, on a charge of disorderly conduct (found on roof of Ambassador Hotel, 1301 North State Street). Disposition was given as discharged on February 13, 1951. CHANCELLOR, who gave his address as 1320 North Astor, Chicago, Illinois, was described as follows:

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Name       | JOHN CHANCELLOR                              |
| Address    | 1320 North Astor Street<br>Chicago, Illinois |
| Sex        | Male   |
| Age        | 23   |
| Weight     | 195 pounds                                   |
| Height     | 6'   |
| Race       | White  |
| Complexion | Light  |
| Build      | Slender                                      |
| Eyes       | Blue   |

3  
CG 161-1203  
WJS:cle

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Hair                   | Brown             |
| Marital status         | Married           |
| Date of birth          | July 14, 1927     |
| Place of birth         | Chicago, Illinois |
| Occupation             | News writer       |
| Place of employment    | N.B.C., Chicago   |
| Social Security Number | 358-14-4131       |

The arresting officers were recorded as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Chicago Police Department records further reflect arrests for one JOHN W. CHANCELLOR on March 27, 1949, on a charge of disorderly - drunk, and a disposition of discharged on March 28, 1949. Also, an arrest on August 13, 1949, for speeding, being under the influence of liquor and no drivers license. Disposition was given as bond forfeiture and capias issued on September 19, 1949. As far as could be determined, this record did not indicate whether this warrant had ever been served. CHANCELLOR gave his residence and employment as 721 South Michigan, reporter on March 27, 1949, and Stevens Hotel and City Editor on August 13, 1949. b7c

On March 27, 1949, CHANCELLOR was described as follows:

|                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Race           | White      |
| Sex            | Male       |
| Age            | 21         |
| Weight         | 185 pounds |
| Height         | 6'         |
| Marital status | Single     |
| Occupation     | Reporter   |

4  
CG 161-1203  
WJS:cle

On August 13, 1949, CHANCELLOR was described as follows:

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Race           | White         |
| Sex            | Male          |
| Age            | 22            |
| Marital status | Single        |
| Address        | Stevens Hotel |
| Occupation     | City Editor   |
| Weight         | 175 pounds    |
| Height         | 5'11"         |

The arresting officers on March 27, 1949, were listed as "THORP [REDACTED]".

The arresting officers on August 13, 1949, were shown as [REDACTED] WEGNER".

A check of the microfilm arrest records of the Chicago Police Department by IC [REDACTED] on August 2, 1965, disclosed that one MARIE BARRETT was arrested by the Chicago Police Department in February, 1935, on a charge of disorderly conduct (no exact charge specified). This record indicated that BARRETT was 37 years of age at the time, had been born in Ireland, and resided at either 9329 or 9339 South Racine Avenue. The disposition of this matter was illegible.

b7c

On August 2, 1965, [REDACTED] Personnel Section, Chicago Police Department, advised IC [REDACTED] that his files which consist of active police department personnel and those who have resigned, contained no individuals with the names of

5  
CG 161-1203  
WJS:clc

THROP, WEGNER, [REDACTED] BARCAL, or GAFFNEY. [REDACTED] advised that in the event these last three named individuals have retired, then it is possible that the records might be maintained by the Police Pension Board, Chicago.

On July 29, 1965, [REDACTED] Vice Section, Chicago Police Department, advised IC [REDACTED] his office had no records identifiable with the appointee.

On July 29, 1965, [REDACTED] Homicide and Sex Division, Chicago Police Department, advised IC [REDACTED] her files contain no records identifiable with the appointee.

[REDACTED] Central Warrant Section, Chicago Police Department, advised IC [REDACTED] on July 30, 1965, that the records disclose no warrant of any nature currently outstanding for the appointee.

b7c

CG 161-1203  
RJS:bls

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED], Chicago, Illinois, advised SA [REDACTED] he recalls that about [REDACTED] years ago while assigned to the Chicago Police Department, 36th District, he and his partner, [REDACTED] received a possible burglary call at the Ambassador East Hotel. An alarm attached to the bottom of the fire escape was set off when it was pulled down to ground level.

[REDACTED] stated that he and [REDACTED] proceeded up the fire escape to the roof. A search of the roof revealed the appointee hiding behind a vent. When questioned the appointee stated that many years ago he, the appointee, had lived in this hotel where his mother was the housekeeper. The appointee advised them he used to play on the roof and fire escape and had returned this night on a desire to re-visit the site where he used to play.

[REDACTED] stated this story sounded very strange in view of the fact it was past midnight. b7c

The appointee was taken to the station while his story about formerly having resided in the hotel was verified. His employment as a reporter or writer for a news media was also verified, and he was shortly thereafter released when it was determined he had no prior record.

[REDACTED] stated he recalls the appointee rather clearly due to the fact that he has observed him on television over the years. He stated he had also heard that shortly after arresting CHANCELLOR, the appointee was again arrested for a very similar incident.

He stated he has never heard anything else regarding CHANCELLOR but he has always felt that there was something wrong with the story CHANCELLOR gave that night.

[REDACTED] Central Youth Division, Chicago Police Department, 1121 South State Street, Chicago, advised on August 2, 1965, that he was attached to the 35th District in 1951. He said he vaguely recalls arresting an individual named CHANCELLOR at that time, but does not recall any of the specific details. [REDACTED] said if the arrest in his mind had been a serious or important one, then he would definitely remember the incident.

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CG 161-1203  
WJS:cle

[REDACTED], Intelligence Division, Chicago Police Department, 1121 South State Street, Chicago, advised on July 30, 1965, that he recalls arresting the appointee sometime in 1951. He said he believes this arrest was made on the fire escape at some Chicago hotel, name unrecalled.

[REDACTED] said to the best of his knowledge CHANCELLOR was arrested for being intoxicated, and not as a "peeping tom".

[REDACTED] said CHANCELLOR was taken to the police station where he was subsequently released after his identity was ascertained.

On August 4, 1965, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were recontacted and said to their knowledge the appointee did not have binoculars in his possession when they arrested him in 1951.

b7c

HHJ/mao  
CG 161-1203

1

On July 31, 1965, [REDACTED] Chicago, Illinois, advised SA [REDACTED] the name JOHN W. CHANCELLOR was not familiar to him. [REDACTED] stated he was unable to recall any details of an arrest he and several other police officers possibly made of an individual on a fire escape at 78 East Elm Street, Chicago, in 1951.

[REDACTED] advised that Patrolman HARRY GAFFNEY is now deceased.

[REDACTED] Chicago Police Department, Chicago, advised SA [REDACTED] on July 30, 1965, that he worked out of the 35th District in the late 1940s and early 1950s, which district covered the Near North Side.

He stated he recalls working with Officers [REDACTED] GAFFNEY and THORP at that time but does not personally recall any aspects of the arrests involving the appointee in May, 1951, and March, 1949.

b7c

CG 161-1203  
RJS:bls

On August 4, 1965, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], Chicago Police Department, advised  
SA [REDACTED] that he was formerly assigned to the old  
35th Chicago Police Department District and was so assigned in  
1951. He advised that he recalls assisting in an arrest of  
an individual found on a fire escape sometime in about 1951.  
He stated he is now unable to recall the name of the person  
arrested but that he had assisted in an arrest of an individual  
on a fire escape and in fact had climbed the fire escape  
and found the arrested party on the second floor level. He  
stated it is his recollection that they charged this person  
with disorderly conduct in the absence of any proof on which  
to base a more specific charge. He advised he has no other  
recollection of any other circumstances surrounding this  
arrest.

b7c

[REDACTED]  
Lansing, Illinois, advised on August 5, 1965, that he is  
a former police officer and had worked out of the "old"  
First District back in the late 1940s.

He said he does not personally know CHANCELLOR  
nor could he recall any of the circumstances surrounding  
CHANCELLOR's arrest on August 13, 1949.

HHJ/mao  
CG 161-1203  
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On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED] Chicago Police Department, Record Retention Warehouse, 3150 South Sacramento, Chicago, Illinois, advised SA [REDACTED] that the station complaint books for the 35th District, Chicago Police Department, have been destroyed up to January 1, 1954.

A check of the Index of Arrests Book for the 35th District, Chicago Police Department, for the period April 1, 1951, to June 24, 1951, reflected the following entry: JOHN CHANCELLOR, Number 126577.

Arrest slip number 126577 revealed the following information:

JOHN CHANCELLOR, 30 East Division, born July 14, 1927, at Chicago was arrested May 10, 1951, 2:15 AM, at 78 East Elm Street. CHANCELLOR was reflected as being employed as a reporter for the National Broadcasting Company under Social Security Number 358-14-4131. He was arrested on the fire escape at 78 East Elm Street on a complaint from [REDACTED]. The arresting officers were reflected as BARCAL, [REDACTED] GAFFNEY, [REDACTED].

Mr. CHANCELLOR appeared in court on May 25, 1951, before Judge GRIFFIN at which time the case was discharged.

A review of Docket Number 51MC107244 at the Chicago Traffic Court, 321 North LaSalle Street, on August 2, 1965, by IC [REDACTED] disclosed that in the above arrest the complaining witness was shown as Mr. C. R. CHRISTOPHERSON, 78 East Elm. The complaint was signed by MARTIN GRANNAN on May 10, 1951, charging JOHN CHANCELLOR with violation of Chapter 193, Section 1, Sub-Section 1 of the Municipal Code of Chicago. This section reads "Did make or aid in making an improper noise, riot, disturbance, breach of peace, or diversion tending to a breach of the peace, within the limits of the city."

HHJ/mao/bls  
CG 161-1203

2

A cash bond of \$100 was posted.

On May 25, 1951, CHANCELLOR was afforded a jury trial and found not guilty by Judge JOHN J. GRIFFIN and discharged.

A check of the Index of Arrests Book for the 36th District, Chicago Police Department, for the period January 1, 1951, to January 2, 1952, reflected the following entry: JOHN W. CHANCELLOR. Number 131302.

[REDACTED] advised that the complaint books for the 36th District have been destroyed up to December 31, 1953.

Arrest slip number 131302 revealed the following information:

JOHN W. CHANCELLOR 1320 North Aster Street, born July 14, 1927, at Chicago, Illinois, was arrested February 11, 1951, at 1:15 AM. CHANCELLOR was arrested at 1301 North State Street where he was "crouching on roof Ambassador East Hotel". CHANCELLOR was reflected as being employed as a news writer for the National Broadcasting Company, Chicago, under Social Security Number 358-14-4131. CHANCELLOR was arrested by officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

On February 13, 1951, CHANCELLOR appeared before Judge NAPOLI at which time the case was discharged.

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED] Municipal Court, Records Warehouse, 3150 South Sacramento, Chicago, Illinois, advised that the records of the Municipal Court of Chicago, branch book number 21, reflects on February 13, 1951, page one, line 15, that JOHN W. CHANCELLOR appeared before Judge ALEXANDER NAPOLI, at which time "leave to file denied".

Municipal Court of Chicago, branch book number 29, revealed that on May 25, 1951, JOHN CHANCELLOR appeared in Branch 29, Docket Number 51MC-107244.

CG 161-1203  
RJS:bls

On August 4, 1965, IC [REDACTED] reviewed Municipal Court Docket Number 49MCI45249. This record indicated that JOHN WILLIAM CHANCELLOR, 721 South Michigan Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, described as a male, 21 years of age, employed as a reporter, single, 185 pounds, 6' tall, medium build, black hair and brown eyes, was arrested on March 27, 1949, by Officers THORP and GRANNAN and was charged with violation of Municipal Code 193-1-1. The record indicated complaint was issued to Officer W. THORP on March 27, 1949, and, according to the arrest slip, CHANCELLOR was found lying intoxicated in a vacant lot at Ohio and Dearborn. The record indicated CHANCELLOR waived a jury trial and was found not guilty and discharged on March 28, 1949, by Judge MASON S. SULLIVAN in Municipal Court Branch 29.

b7c  
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CG 161-1203

RJS:bls

On July 30, 1965, the following advised SA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] records of their agencies contain no information  
identifiable with MOLLIE BARRETT or MOLLIE CHANCELLOR:

[REDACTED], Hub Credit Bureau,  
Highland Park, Illinois

[REDACTED], Highland  
Park Police Department

A recheck of records at the above credit bureau  
and police department on August 3, 1965, by SA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] disclosed no information for MARIE or MARY CHANCELLOR  
or MARY or MARIE BARRETT.

b7c

Marriages

On July 29, 1965, IC [REDACTED] at the Cook County Bureau of Vital Statistics reviewed marriage records on file with the Cook County Bureau of Vital Statistics which reflected an Affidavit for Marriage License Number 2472595 was filed January 24, 1958, by JOHN W. CHANCELLOR, born July 14, 1927, of 1260 North Dearborn, who had been previously married at Chicago and divorced, Docket Number 51S12564, and BARBARA E. UPSHAW, born July 31, 1924, with address 1260 North Dearborn [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] These records reflect marriage license was filed January 28, 1958, revealing marriage of the above two parties on January 25, 1958, at Chicago by JOHN F. HAYWARD, Minister, 7611 Merrill Avenue, Chicago. b7c

These records also reflected Affidavit for Marriage License Number 2155782 filed October 11, 1950, by JOHN W. CHANCELLOR, born July 14, 1927, and residing 1320 Astor, and by CONSTANCE HERBERT, born November 21, 1929, and residing at 39 East Diversy. The records further reflect marriage license was filed on October 17, 1950, indicating above parties were married on October 14, 1950, at Chicago by CALVIN DE VRIES, Minister, 4th Presbyterian Church, 126 East Chestnut Street, Chicago.

CG 161-1203  
RJS:bls

Divorce

On July 30, 1965, IC [REDACTED] reviewed Cook County Circuit Court Docket 57S12564 which is a divorce proceeding involving plaintiff CONSTANCE L. CHANCELLOR versus defendant JOHN W. CHANCELLOR. These records indicate a complaint for divorce was filed October 22, 1957, indicating these parties were married on October 14, 1950. Plaintiff charged on April 9, 1955, defendant wilfully deserted himself from plaintiff without any reasonable cause for the space of one year and upward, and has persisted in such desertion, and continues to absent himself from plaintiff. Records indicated that as the issue of said marriage, plaintiff has had by said JOHN W. CHANCELLOR, defendant, [REDACTED]. The record indicated attorney for the plaintiff was GEORGE A. VINIK, 134 North LaSalle, and for the defendant, Katz and Friedman, 7 South Dearborn. The records indicated the defendant filed an answer to the complaint on October 30, 1957, in which defendant denied deserting plaintiff. Decree for divorce was filed November 13, 1957, by Judge THADDEUS V. ADDESKO. Terms of the divorce were that the defendant agreed to [REDACTED]

The record reflected witnesses for the plaintiff were [REDACTED] Chicago, and [REDACTED], Chicago.

b7c

CG 161-1203

WJS:keh

1

Miscellaneous

An individual identifying himself only as a police officer and a good Democrat, telephonically advised the Chicago FBI Office on July 28, 1965, that he did not want to become involved, but thought that the Administration should know that JOHN CHANCELLOR had been locked up a number of times by the Chicago Police Department, and had a "big sheet". He was arrested about six years ago on moral charges and the records are now at 11th and State. He was arrested by the 35th and 36th Districts once on Elm Street, and on another occasion at the Ambassador Hotel. The latter charge was quashed. On one occasion he was found hiding on a roof using binoculars.

The officer who called, stated that all of these arrests are matters of record with the Chicago Police Department and could be checked.

On July 29, 1965, Chicago [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that JOHN CHANCELLOR is known in the homosexual circles as "one of us and friendly to us." Informant stated that only yesterday he had remarked to a homosexual friend that "one of us", meaning CHANCELLOR, is getting up in the world, referring to his appointment as Director of the Voice of America.

b2,  
b7c  
b7D

Informant advised that CHANCELLOR is not personally known to him but had known of him through his homosexual associates.

On August 2, 1965, Chicago [redacted] advised that the information he furnished on July 29, 1965, concerning CHANCELLOR is hearsay dating back to the time that CHANCELLOR was a newspaper reporter in Chicago. Informant stated he is unable to recall where he first heard that CHANCELLOR was known to be friendly toward homosexuals, and possibly a homosexual himself.

b2  
b7D,

CG 161-1203

WJS:keh

2

On August 3, 1965, Chicago ██████ advised that he had, on August 2, 1965, mentioned to a "homosexual acquaintance" about the appointment of JOHN CHANCELLOR, and one homosexual named "JOE" (LNU) remarked that he did not like CHANCELLOR because when he used to see him at a north side homosexual hangout he, CHANCELLOR, thought he was a "big wheel".

Chicago ██████ said homosexuals do not normally learn the complete names and addresses of their friends unless one takes the other to a residence. Therefore, in his practice he does not know "JOE" (LNU) further.

Chicago ██████ noted that he, as well as most of his homosexual friends, frequent known regular businesses or locations and make such "meets and dates" in that manner.

Chicago ██████ said CHANCELLOR may be known to homosexuals by name due to his prominence, but doubts seriously any homosexual will admit knowledge of CHANCELLOR or even knowing him.

Chicago ██████ advised on August 2, 1965, he is aware of the identity of JOHN CHANCELLOR who was recently appointed to a post in the United States Government and knows him to be referred to by "fags", as "Mother" CHANCELLOR.

Chicago ██████ said he is not personally acquainted with CHANCELLOR.

On August 4, 1965, Chicago ██████ said that in conversations with two "queers" with whom he is acquainted, he mentioned that JOHN CHANCELLOR has been appointed to a federal post. He asked these two "queers" if CHANCELLOR was a "queer".

Chicago ██████ said that they both answered "yes, he is one of us", but that neither one of them had ever been "out" with him.

Chicago ██████ said these two "queers" did not know with whom CHANCELLOR had been "out" with, but that he travelled with the "crowd". To their knowledge CHANCELLOR

b2  
BD

CG 161-1203

WJS:keh

3

had been to the Blue Dahlia in Chicago, known to Chicago █████ as a "queer" hangout.

Chicago █████ said CHANCELLOR was referred to as belonging to the "home crowd", which means he is not open in displaying his affections and does same only with a select group in secure places.

b2  
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CG 161-1203  
RJS:bls

Chicago Newspaper Guild, Local 71  
American Newspaper Guild  
162 East Ohio  
Chicago, Illinois

On July 30, 1965, [REDACTED], advised that his records do not show when JOHN CHANCELLOR became a member, but to his recollection it was in 1948 or 1949. He had an "honorable withdrawal" on May 24, 1951.

[REDACTED] said he was [REDACTED] of the local at the time CHANCELLOR was a member, and knew him [REDACTED], as he was a [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at the time CHANCELLOR was [REDACTED].

He said he had known CHANCELLOR well professionally, but not socially. He believed him to be a person of good character and reputation and a loyal American. He had no knowledge of his associates and could suggest no other officers of the Chicago Newspaper Guild who were close to him.

Civil Air Patrol (CAP)  
Illinois Wing Headquarters  
33 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois

[REDACTED], advised on August 3, 1965, that CAP records only go back to 1950. She said the records show no information for the appointee.

She stated CAP National Headquarters, Ellington Air Force Base, Houston, Texas, might have a record for the appointee.

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CG 161-1203  
HRE/vmm/bls

The reference files of the "Chicago Daily Tribune" were reviewed on July 30, 1965, by SA [REDACTED] and disclosed an article, dated May 11, 1951, captioned, "Can't Explain Presence on Fire Escape; Seized." This article indicated that JOHN CHANCELLOR, age 23, of 30 East Division Street, who said he was a news reporter for a radio network, was arrested early yesterday on the fire escape of the building at 76-78 East Elm Street. Chicago Avenue Police, summoned by residents, said CHANCELLOR could not explain his presence there and booked him on a disorderly conduct charge. Judge JOHN GRIFFIN, Chicago Avenue Court, continued his case until May 22, 1951.

The reference files of the "Chicago Daily Tribune" disclosed no additional pertinent information regarding CHANCELLOR.

The combined reference files of the "Chicago Daily News" and "Chicago Sun-Times" were checked by SA [REDACTED] on July 30, 1965, and disclosed no pertinent news items published by either of these two newspapers. However, these reference files contained an item which had been furnished by the City News Bureau, undated, but with the date May 22, 1951, written in pencil on the item. This item reflects that JOHN CHANCELLOR, age 23, of 30 East Division Street, who was seized May 10, 1951, on the fire escape of an apartment building at 76-78 East Elm Street, was instructed today by Municipal Judge JOHN GRIFFIN in Chicago Avenue Court to bring six character references to court at the next hearing, May 25, 1951. He was charged with disorderly conduct. He had been arrested when he was seen on the first floor of the fire escape by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
according to this item.