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7 October 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

ATTENTION: Mr. Sam J. Papich

SUBJECT: COURT FOSTER WOOD
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

Reference is made to a 25 March 1961 and a 6 July 1961 investigative report on captioned Subject which have previously been furnished to this Agency.

Michael Weimer Stratton, born 21 January 1941, Austin, Texas, who is a current Agency employee, has recently been interviewed concerning his knowledge of Court Foster Wood whom Stratton had known since mutual attendance in high school. Attached is a detailed report of the information furnished by Stratton concerning his knowledge of Wood.

Since Stratton personally has sufficient reason to question the activities of Wood and the activities of the associates of Wood, Stratton has been advised to discontinue any further contact with Wood.

It would be appreciated if your Bureau would furnish this Agency any additional information brought to your attention concerning Court Foster Wood and of particular interest would be any information received by your Bureau concerning past association of Court Foster Wood with Michael Weimer Stratton.

The above information is for your use only and should not be disseminated outside your Bureau.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

R. L. Bannerman
Acting Director of Security

Attachment:
As noted

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SUBJECT: Court Foster Wood

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[Michael Weimer Stratton] has recently advised that Court 3
Foster Wood was a relatively close high school friend of [Stratton]
during mutual attendance at George Mason High School, Falls Church,
Virginia, during 1957 to 1959. [Stratton] described Wood as an
average high school student who had no particular problems with
the exception that there were domestic difficulties between the
father and mother of Wood.

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[Stratton] became acquainted with the parents of Wood and made
occasional visits to their home during the above period of time.
The father of Wood, Foster Wood, is an attorney who was then living
in Falls Church. Some time ago the father and mother of Court Wood
split up and Court Wood and father moved into an apartment on
Columbia Road, Washington, D.C.

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[Stratton] advised that after graduation from high school in
June 1959 he lost any close contact with Wood who then started to
attend George Mason College, where he seemed to have an interest
in philosophy. 3 [Stratton] started to attend a military school and
Wood expressed extreme opposition to military schools.

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[Stratton] married in 1960, which also helped to move [Stratton]
somewhat out of the social circle of Wood. 3 [Stratton] believed that
for approximately a year, during 1959 to 1960, he did not actually
see Wood but advised that after this period in which he did not
see Wood he has had a number of contacts with Wood, many of which
occurred during mutual attendance at the University of Virginia
Extension School (night school) in early 1961. On one occasion
3 [Stratton] attended a party at the apartment occupied by Wood and
father at the invitation of Wood, and on this occasion came into
contact with the "new set of friends" of Court Wood, whom [Stratton] 3
described as being "beatnik types." Girls in attendance at the
party, according to [Stratton], appeared to be of the "street pickup"
type.
3

After the above party Wood occasionally telephoned [Stratton] 3
and about Christmas 1960 Wood called and stated that he was going
to Cuba under the auspices of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.
3 [Stratton] called on Wood after the return of Wood from Cuba and at
that time Wood lauded Castro very highly. The father of Wood was
also present and [Stratton] obtained the impression that the father
was also in sympathy with Castro. 3 [Stratton] recalled that he again,
at a later date, had visited the Wood apartment, this being an
occasion when Wood had been visiting somewhere in Falls Church
and contacted [Stratton] to ask [Stratton] to take Wood home. On this
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1. Court Wood

2. Wood was recently advised that Court Wood had been in contact with a friend of Stratten's, a man named [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia. Wood was advised that [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia. Wood was advised that [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia.

3. [redacted] advised that the [redacted] of [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia. Wood was advised that [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia. Wood was advised that [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia.

4. [redacted] advised that the [redacted] of [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia. Wood was advised that [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia. Wood was advised that [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia.

5. [redacted] advised that the [redacted] of [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia. Wood was advised that [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia. Wood was advised that [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia. Wood was advised that [redacted] was a [redacted] and that [redacted] was a [redacted] who was in the [redacted] area of Falls Church, Virginia.

6. After the above party, Wood occasionally telephoned [redacted] and about [redacted] 1960 Wood called and stated that he was going to Cuba under the auspices of the [redacted] Committee. [redacted] called on Wood after the return of Wood from Cuba and at that time Wood lauded Castro very highly. The father of Wood was also present and [redacted] obtained the impression that the father was also in sympathy with Castro. [redacted] recalled that he is in, at a later date, had visited the Wood apartment, and being in occasion when Wood had been visiting [redacted] in Falls Church and contacted [redacted] to [redacted] [redacted] to the Wood home. On this

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occasion **Stratton** stayed at the Wood apartment for approximately an hour, and advised that on this occasion he observed some Soviet propaganda pamphlets in the apartment and that these pamphlets had been printed in England. Stratton also observed numerous copies of the USSR flag in the apartment.

Stratton also advised that, as previously indicated, he would meet Wood at the University of Virginia Extension School which was conducting night classes at the Washington and Lee High School. Both Wood and **Stratton** were attending the night classes but were not attending mutual classes. **Stratton** recalled that on one of the occasions when he had met Wood while attending night classes Wood talked about going to Cuba, Mexico for permanent residence, and made some statement to the effect that he would be willing to renounce his United States citizenship.

Stratton also recalled that Wood was known to the Americans who were afraid of the word "Communism" and were being misled by the newspapers. Wood had complained that the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was unable to attract proper publicity in the United States.

In June 1961 the husband of Wood was invited and Stratton also recalled that he had a conversation with Wood up until late August or early September 1961. Wood's last known contact involved to the purchase of a bicycle and a car and a time or through some mutual friends Stratton received information and received information on Wood's local contacts. Stratton the wife of Wood and Stratton and wife to the Wood apartment for a party and also so that could meet his wife, **Stratton** and wife, together with Gill and Thomas Varney, Washington Boulevard, Arlington, who had also attended high school with Stratton, the wife of **Stratton** and Wood, accompanied **Stratton** and wife to the above party. The other individuals at the party were of the "beatnik crowd" with several of the men wearing beards, and the girls appearing to be of the "street pick-up" type. In view of this **Stratton** and wife only remained at the party for a very short time but did meet the wife of Wood. The wife of Wood had been attending Bryn Mawr College and was on her way to attend Bryn Mawr during the school year of 1960-1961. **Stratton** stated that the sister of the wife of Wood is still in contact with Wood.

but that they were still in contact with Wood.

the party, Stratton attended at the apartment for approximately one hour and

Stratton also recalled that Wood was known to the Americans who were afraid of the word "Communism" and were being misled by the newspapers. Wood had complained that the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was unable to attract proper publicity in the United States.

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1. The University of Wisconsin has a long history of research in the field of the history of the United States. The University of Wisconsin has a long history of research in the field of the history of the United States. The University of Wisconsin has a long history of research in the field of the history of the United States.

[illegible]

In regard to specific associates of Wool, [redacted] testified that at the party which he attended at the apartment occupied by Wool and wife, there were approximately thirty individuals present, a number of whom he actually met but whose names he did not recall. [redacted] also recall that the following individuals were present: "Walt" Williams, now believed living in Washington, D. C. but who had attended George Mason College with Wool; and "Charles" [redacted], who lives in Washington, D. C. and who attended

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