

DISPATCH		SECRET		PROCESSING ACTION																																					
Chief of Station, Port Louis				NO INDEXING REQUIRED																																					
INFO				ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING																																					
FROM		Chief, Africa Division		METHOD																																					
SUBJECT																																									
Headquarter's Traces on the Military Armament Corporation.																																									
ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES: AR: As Stated in Paragraph Three																																									
Reference: Port Louis 12011, 17 May 1973.																																									
<p>1. There are no Headquarter's traces on Dr. George A. Winkler, but there are traces on the Military Armament Corporation and its Board Chairman, Mr. Mitchell Livingston WerBell III (201-259910). In 1967 WerBell organized a firm called SIONICS, Incorporated (Studies in Operational Negation of Insurgency and Counter Subversion), specializing in producing silencers. In 1970, WerBell merged with Quantum Ordnance Bankers and the new firm was named the Military Armament Corporation with WerBell as Chairman of the Board.</p> <p>2. WerBell was born on 8 March 1918 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He served in the OSS and was of interest to BKHERALD in 1959 when it was discovered that he was involved with anti-Castro plotters in the Dominican Republic. He was granted a POA in August 1959 but this was cancelled in October 1959 when his information proved to be of little value and it was suspected that he was using BKHERALD funds to promote personal interests. He has subsequently attempted to pass himself as LNBULL connected and as a BKHERALD employee. Mr. WerBell's lengthy 201 file shows a long history of his appearing in areas and situations where he can make a fast buck. He is characterized as unscrupulous, a "wheeler dealer", and a promoter of grandiose schemes. WOTACK advises that the arms WerBell offers for sale are of good quality, but that the selling price is considered excessive.</p> <p>3. In that Mr. WerBell is a MODUAL citizen, the above information should not be passed to CGPAT/1. However, the Station could inform CGPAT/1 that the Military Armament Corporation has an unsavory reputation and, although it may have permission from NVIDEO to export arms, it has no LNBULL connections and that any dealings with the corporation should be approached with extreme caution.</p>																																									
Luther S. PENAGELIA																																									
Distribution: Orig & 1-COS, Port Louis																																									
CROSS REFERENCE TO		DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER		DATE																																					
		AQPN 240		29 May 73 4 JUN 1973																																					
		CLASSIFICATION SECRET		FILE NUMBER 201-259910																																					
Distribution: 1-AF/5 1-AF/5 Chron		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">ORIGINATING</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICE</th> <th>OFFICER</th> <th>EXT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>AF/5/E</td> <td>G. Hopman</td> <td>1023</td> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="3">COORDINATING</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICE SYMBOL</th> <th>DATE</th> <th>OFFICER'S NAME</th> </tr> <tr> <td>CI/OPS</td> <td>30.5.73</td> <td>R. B. Nelson</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="3">REISSUING</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICE SYMBOL</th> <th>DATE</th> <th>OFFICER'S NAME</th> </tr> <tr> <td>DC/AF/5</td> <td>31 May 73</td> <td>Robert E. MacDonald</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				ORIGINATING			OFFICE	OFFICER	EXT	AF/5/E	G. Hopman	1023	COORDINATING			OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE	OFFICER'S NAME	CI/OPS	30.5.73	R. B. Nelson										REISSUING			OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE	OFFICER'S NAME	DC/AF/5	31 May 73	Robert E. MacDonald
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IN 953224

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SECRET

CITE TDRR -314/05249-73

DIST 20 JUNE 1973

COUNTRY BAHAMA ISLANDS

DOI 15 JUNE 1973

SUBJECT ANTICIPATION THAT ABACO SECESSIONISTS
WILL NOT RESORT TO VIOLENCE

ACQ 16 JUNE 1973

SOURCE **AN OFFICIAL BAHAMIAN SERVICE.**

1. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS DOES NOT ANTICIPATE ANY VIOLENCE AND/OR ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS BY THE ABACO SECESSIONISTS DURING THE INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS. TROUBLE IS NOT EXPECTED FROM THE COUNCIL FOR A FREE ABACO AND ERRINGTON W A T K I N S, LEADING SPOKESMAN FOR THE ABACO SECESSIONISTS AND FORMER FREE NATIONAL MOVEMENT (FNM) MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT. TROUBLE MAY, HOWEVER, OCCUR AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

2. WATKINS IS CONSIDERED TO BE AN ERRATIC PERSONALITY WHO COULD TAKE EXTREME ACTION IF ABACO WERE IGNORED BY THE GOVERNMENT AFTER INDEPENDENCE OR NOT GIVEN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.

SECRET

2 56

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(classification) (dissem controls)

IN THE MEANTIME, WATKINS VALUES HIS POLITICAL CAREER AND WISHES TO REGAIN HIS PARLIAMENTARY SEAT. HE, THEREFORE, IS NOT LIKELY TO ATTEMPT ANY VIOLENT ACTION. (FIELD COMMENT: THE BAHAMAS PRESS REPORTED ON 13 JUNE 1973 THAT WATKINS HAD BEEN EXPELLED FROM THE FNM. ON 15 JUNE THE BAHAMAS PRESS REPORTED THAT WATKINS HAD DECLARED HIMSELF AN INDEPENDENT REPRESENTATIVE IN PARLIAMENT AND THAT THE COUNCIL FOR A FREE ABACO WOULD BE CONVERTED INTO A POLITICAL PARTY.)

3. (BAHAMIAN SERVICE) COMMENT: IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT WATKINS' NEW POLITICAL PARTY WILL BECOME A SIGNIFICANT FORCE IN THE BAHAMAS. A FEW OTHER FNM MEMBERS, INCLUDING POSSIBLY SIR ROLAND SYMONETTE, CLEOPHAS ADDERLEY AND MICHAEL LIGHTBOURN, MAY JOIN THE NEW PARTY, ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE ALSO EXPELLED FROM THE FNM. IN THE FUTURE, A THREE PARTY SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT TO INCLUDE THE PROGRESSIVE LIBERAL PARTY, THE OPPOSITION FNM AND THE NEW WATKINS PARTY MAY EMERGE IN THE BAHAMAS.)

EX. 13.10

4. FIELD DISSEM: NONE.

1.0

REPORT CLASS SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM

CLASSIFIED BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF E.O. 13526 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5B (1), (2). IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE DATE OF AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION.

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26 MAY 69 IN 66602

SAIGON INFO: DIRECTOR, VIENTIANE, SINGAPORE, MANILA, RANGOON,

HONG KONG, TAIPEI, DJAKARTA, TOKYO, SEOUL, KUALA LUMPUR

REF: DIRECTOR 88114 (SENT BANGKOK ONLY)

1. WE HAVE BEEN PLAGUED FOR SOME WEEKS NOW
BY MR. MITCHELL L. VERBELL III, VICE PRESIDENT AND
DIRECTOR OF R AND D OF SIONICS, ATLANTA, GEORGIA.
VERBELL DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS A COUNTERINSURGENCY
EXPERT, HAS A VARIETY OF WEAPONS TO DISPLAY, CLAIMS
TO BE A RETIRED COLONEL, AND LAST WEEK INTRODUCED
HIMSELF AT A LOCAL NIGHTCLUB AS CHIEF OF WOFIRM IN
THAILAND.

ABSTRACT	X
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2. VERBELL HAS A HISTORY OF SHOWING UP IN
TROUBLE SPOTS WHERE HE CAN MAKE A FAST BUCK. HE
IMPLIES THAT HE IS U.S. GOVT CONNECTED AND PRESENTS
A DEMONSTRATION OF A VARIETY OF EXOTIC
WEAPONS THAT NEVER FAILS TO IMPRESS. REF
DESCRIBES HIM AS AN UNSCRUPULOUS OPPORTUNIST WITH
A REPUTATION FOR LIVING BEYOND HIS MEANS.

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26 May 69

201-259910