

CONFIDENTIAL

OSS-495-74

13 March 1974

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Mr. Stephen Van Cleave

1. On 27 and 28 February calls were received from Bill Cantrell, OPS/ITG, and Dave Dewhurst WH/4/AR, concerning OO-A(S)-322/03435-74. Cantrell wanted to be sure FBI had information and Dewhurst wanted to advise DCD that there was a file on subject and DCD should be aware of some of his background. Evan Ames stopped in to see Dewhurst on his next visit to headquarters and received a fill-in on subject's background.

2. Subsequently a call was received from Charlotte in C/WH Division office (x-7350). It was imperative to determine the exact date of contact with Van Cleave as C/WH, thru Legislative Counsel, had advised Congress on 7 January 1974 that the Agency had no contact with Van Cleave. Atlanta and Miami were contacted and date of first contact was set at 25 January 1974. Both offices were requested to provide a record of contact with Van Cleave. Atlanta had several hours of tape (from first and second meeting) which Pangburn would have transcribed and forwarded for the record. Called John Peterson later and advised that WH has asked that tapes also be forwarded to headquarters for retention.

3. We were advised that the Congressional inquiry on Van Cleave resulted from a remark overheard at a cocktail party - that Van Cleave had commented that he was working with CIA under cover. Van Cleave was scheduled as potential witness of House Internal Security Committee so House had inquired as to whether his appearance would embarrass the Agency. As noted, response on 7 January was that Agency had no contact with Van Cleave.

*Lillian Grant*  
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File HH 25695  
cc: Services Branch (Control)

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