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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.

<sup>3, 8</sup>  
[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<sup>3</sup> known since mutual attendance in high school. Attached is a detailed report of the information furnished by [Stratton] concerning his knowledge of Wood. <sup>3</sup>

Since [Stratton]<sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup>

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]. <sup>3</sup>

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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TO: The Director  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

SUBJECT: COURT FOSTER AND  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reference is made to a March 1961 letter from the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, dated March 1, 1961, and a letter from the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, dated March 1, 1961.

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 The New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is requested to continue its investigation of the activities of the above named individuals and to report the results of its investigation to the Bureau.

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 It is requested that you personally inspect the files of the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the activities of the above named individuals and report the results of your inspection to the Bureau.

It would be appreciated if your Bureau would furnish this Agency any additional information brought to your attention concerning Court Foster and of particular interest would be any information received by your Bureau concerning past association of Court Foster and with Richard Weiner, Director.

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

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

R. L. Burman  
 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.

3  
[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.

3  
[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.

3  
[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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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 at a time when he was in the United States that Americans were all of the kind "Communists" and were being watched by the newspapers. Wood also complained that the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was unable to obtain press coverage in the United States.

In June 1961 the Bureau of Investigation advised that Strickland did not recall the time he last met or saw Wood until late August or early September 1961. Wood's last known contact in regard to the purchase of a bicycle was made by a friend or through some mutual friend from Newark, New Jersey, and occurred at the home of Strickland's sister-in-law, the wife of Wood, who invited Strickland and wife to the home for a party. Wood also stated that they could meet his wife, [redacted] and wife, together with Gail and Thomas V. Wiley, Washington Boulevard, Arlington, who had also attended high school with Strickland, the wife of [redacted] and Wood, accompanied [redacted] and wife on the above party. The other individuals at the party were of the "beach crowd" with several of the men wearing boards, and the girls appearing to be of the "street pick-up type". In view of this, [redacted] and wife only remained at the party for very short time but did meet the wife of W. C. The wife of Wood had been attending Bryn Mawr College and was en route to attend Bryn Mawr during the school year of 1960-1961. [redacted] noted that the mother of the wife of Wood is still in contact with him and that she has three children who were approximately 17, 15 and 13 years of age.

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[illegible][illegible]

In regard to specific associates of Wood, Stratton stated that at the party which he attended at the apartment occupied by Wood and wife there were approximately thirty individuals present, a number of whom he actually met but whose names he did not recall. He stated recall that the following individuals were present: "Will" McDonald, now believed living in Washington, D. C. but who had attended George Mason College with Wood; and Charles Woods, who lives in Washington, D. C. and who attended

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[illegible][illegible]

A wide, horizontal, high-contrast black and white image showing a dense, grainy texture, possibly a close-up of a surface or a heavily textured material. The texture is composed of many small, irregular dark and light specks, creating a noisy, almost abstract pattern. The overall effect is one of extreme detail and contrast, with no discernible shapes or figures.

A wide, horizontal, high-contrast black and white image showing a dense, grainy texture, possibly a close-up of a surface or a heavily textured material. The texture is composed of many small, dark, irregular shapes against a lighter background, creating a complex, almost abstract pattern. The overall effect is one of intense detail and depth, with varying shades of gray and black throughout the frame.

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1. The first step is to identify the key components of the system. This involves understanding the inputs, outputs, and internal processes. For example, in a manufacturing system, the inputs might be raw materials and labor, the outputs are finished products, and the internal processes are the various stages of production.

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