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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1980-305-750/5402



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D.C. 20535 June 10, 1980

SECRET

WILLIAM A. (BILLY) CARTER, III LIBYAN-ARAB-GEORGIA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT-LIBYA

Attached hereto are the results of an interview of a person who has information about this matter.

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.

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1. Memorandun

To File

DATE: June 11, 1980

FROM

Joel S. Lisker, Chief

: Registration Unit

Internal Security Section

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

SUBJECT: Billy Carter

Today, at 2:15 p.m., Mark Richard and I met with William A. (Billy) Carter, III, in my office. The purpose of the meeting, which I imparted to Billy Carter when he called me earlier in the day, was to explain to him our position in this matter based on information which we developed during the course of the investigation, to receive any additional information which he might wish to furnish, and to advise him that we had concluded that he has an obligation to register with the Department of Justice as an agent of the Libyan Government.

As the outset of the interview, Carter was advised of his right to remain silent and of his right to have an attorney present during the interview. He was also advised that if he chose to give up his right to remain silent, that anything he said could be used against him in a court of law. He was further advised that he could leave at any time he chose and that at any point could, if he wanted, get an attorney. He said he understood his rights; that if he didn't want to answer a question, he would not do so, and that he did not wish to have an attorney present

We recalled for Carter the substance of a previous interview in Americus, Georgia on January 16, 1980 at which time he said that with the exception of the two all expense paid trips to Libya, three gold bracelets, a silver mounted saddle, a silver Libyan Government. He was further reminded that he said at the previous interview that he has no formal or informal relationship feels that the Libyans regard him as a friend and that that is

He was then asked if his prior statement was still accurate. He replied that it was. He was told that we had information from a variety of sources which suggests that it is not an accurate statement, and that in fact, he had received additional compensation from the Libyans in the form of cash payments,

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

Form OBD-197 5-79

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Carter then admitted taking a "loan" from the Libyans in the amount of \$200,000. This "loan", he said was arranged by his good friend Ahmed al-Shahati, the head of the Libyan Liaison It was paid to him by a check drawn on a bank, the name of which he cannot now recall. The check was deposited by Carter in his personal checking account at the Peoples National Bank, LaGrange, Georgia. According to Carter, he could not recall when exactly he received the check in that the transaction was negotiated primarily by Randy Coleman, a close personal friend of Carter's who has his special power of attorney. He stated he had asked for \$500,000, but was able to get only \$200,000. He believes that the money was received in March or April, 1980. Carter said he was virtually bankrupt in that while he had assets, they were not liquid and his cash flow had been substantially diminished. He said he was unable to borrow from conventional sources, because of apparent "harrassment" by the IRS and other government agencies of any person or institution which dealt with him. He said the loan was fully and formally collateralized in the amount of \$800,000, although he also stated that to his knowledge the note and collateral agreement were not recorded at his request. said the interest rate is set at 10%, with interest only payable at the end of one year. Thereafter, the terms of the loan may be renegotiated. Carter insisted that this was a bona fide loan and that he had every intention of paying it off, although he admitted that most of the \$200,000 had been dispersed by him to pay personal outstanding debts.

Carter advised further that he had received a check from the Libyans in March in the amount of \$20,000 which was partial reimbursement for his expenses in hosting a reception for the Libyan delegation in January of 1979. He said that he had receipts to demonstrate that his personal out of pocket expenses in connection with that visit were approximately \$40,000. Carter also stated that in connection with the Curran investigation 3 or 4 months of records were misplaced earlier by the Government, although he understood they were recently located in Baltimore and that he believes the receipts to which he referred are in those missing documents.

Carter was reminded that upon interview in Americus on January 16, he had said that his expenses were \$6,000 to \$7,000 in connection with the reception and this would mean he actually received additional compensation in the amount of \$13,000 to \$14,000. He repeated his earlier statement that his expenses were approximately \$40,000 and that the \$6,000 to \$7,000 figure was not correct.

Carter was then advised that Phil Wise, appointments secretary to the President, had been interviewed regarding Carter's statement that he telephoned Wise about the Libyan Aircraft problems after Carter's return from the first Libyan trip. He was told that Wise could not recall the conversation and that he reviewed his telephone logs beginning in October 1978 thru January 1979, but no call from Billy Carter was logged in. Carter responded by saying that he made the call, he thinks that the person Wise put him in touch with had a name sounding like "Whitehorse or Whitehurst" but he cannot be sure. He said further that Wise probably would not log in calls to him.

When questioned about his activities for the Libyans, Carter denied doing anything for them. He said he felt they loaned him the \$200,000 because they genuinely liked and respected him because he was outspoken in their defense and in his criticisms of the media and its domination by certain Zionist elements.

Carter was then asked if he had any other negotiations pending with the Libyans. He said that he had another matter pending in which he represented what he thought was a U.S. oil corporation. In discussing this aspect, Carter first refused to disclose the identity of the entity but in conversation inadvertently let the name "Charter" slip out. He then said "well I've said it; its Charter Oil Company". He stated he thought Charter was a Florida corporation, but that it might be controlled by a foreign corporation in Bermuda or the Bahamas. He also said that he believes Charter is in some way related to the Carey Oil Company, which he described as being controlled by New York Gov. Carey or his family. Carter said he had been retained by Charter to help get an increase in the corporation's allocation of Libyan crude. He was asked if he had any special expertise in oil matters, which might account for the oil company retaining him and he replied that he did not. He felt that Charter contacted him because of his highly publicized association with the Libyans. He stated that if the increased allocation is granted the Libyans will give him the credit, thereby enabling him to earn a commission from Charter. He was asked again why Charter would come to him, instead of going directly to the Libyans. He replied that Charter had been a purchaser of Libyan crude for many years, but that with the deterioration of U.S.-Libyan relations the company had no line of communication.

Carter concluded by saying he was not a Libyan agent, that the Libyans did not control him or his actions; that he wished they would give him a contract to represent them and in the event that were to happen he would register immediately.



Carter had advised at the outset of the interview that he had a 3:20 appointment at the White House with Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, that Dr. Brzezinski had learned of his oil dealings with the Libyans and Charter and felt these dealings if disclosed publically would be politically damaging.

Carter advised that he also intended to see his brother, the President. The interview was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. to be resumed later in the day.

Thereafter at 5:40 p.m., we received a telephone call from Stephen J. Pollak of the firm of Shea & Gardner. Pollak stated that he and Henry Ruth were now representing Billy Carter and that they had advised him not to continue the interview until they were better informed on the matter and in a position to advise him. Pollak stated they had chatted only briefly with Carter and that they wished to meet with us as soon as possible to discuss the matter further. An appointment was set for Thursday, June 12, 1980 in Mark Richard's office.

June 7, 1979

Judge:

Attached sets forth the results of the interviews of six associates of Billy Carter. The Department of Justice, by Tetter dated 4/24/79, requested they be interviewed relative to the Libyan-Arab Georgia Friendship Society (LAGFS) Billy Carter's trip to Libya, 9/78, and the Libyan delegation trip to the United States 1/79.

Interviews indicate Libyan Government initiated contact with associates of Billy Carter to promote friendship between Libya and the United States. The LAGFS was described as a friendship agreement between Libya and the United States. A charter was drawn by the Libyans and signed by 50 or 60 individuals in a gesture of friendship in January, 1979. It appears this charter was never submitted to the Georgia State Corporation Commission.

Libyan Ambassador to Italy, Gabriel Shalouf met with Billy Carter in early July, 1978, in Plains, Georgia, and invited him to Libya with the expenses paid by the Libyan Government. Shalouf returned to Atlanta in 9/78, and accompanied Carter and his associates to Libya, where they met many Libyan officials and visited a museum, agriculture and dairy farms. Billy Carter invited the Libyans to visit him in the United States during a dinner banquet, held the last night of the trip.

Results of interviews furnished to Department on 5/14/79, for their prosecutive opinion as to a possible violation Foreign Agents Registration Act, 22 U.S.C. 612 et seq. We have completed investigation and will await Department's decision.

W. O. Cregar

JUDGE: (Informal Advice - Not for Retention)

As you know, we have been conducting a Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) investigation regarding Billy Carter for over a year. We have worked closely in this regard with Joel Lisker of the DOJ and have interviewed Billy Carter and a number of his associates. To date, Carter has not registered and does not believe that his relationship with the Libyan Government requires him to register since, in his opinion, it is covered by the commercial exemption of FARA.

On 6/11/80 Carter met with Lisker to discuss registration. The meeting had been arranged by an attorney who represents Carter, and they met for about an hour. Lisker furnished the following information. Carter received a check for \$20,000 in January or February, 1980, for reimbursement of expenses he incurred when a group of Libyans visited Georgia in January, 1979. In March, 1980, Carter received a \$200,000 check, a renegotiable loan, from the Libyan Government at 10% interest. This loan had been negotiated in December, 1979, by one Randy Coleman, an associate of Carter. Carter also advised Lisker that he was acting as a consultant to Charter Oil, a domestic oil firm located in Jacksonville, Florida, concerning oil purchases from Libya.

Carter further told Lisker that he had an appointment on the afternoon of 6/11/80 with Dr. Brzezinski who, according to Carter, wished to discuss with Carter the possible political implications of Carter's relationship with the Libyan Government. Carter advised that he has also retained an attorney in Washington, D.C., Stephen J. Pollak, who was to meet with DOJ representatives on 6/12/80 to discuss this case. Lisker advised that the Attorney General has decided to wait for approximately 10 days prior to deciding what future action the DOJ should take regarding Carter's registering under the FARA. In the meantime, the FBI will conduct several interviews of representatives of Charter Oil

As you know, we surveilled Carter at the request of Phil Heymann. We did not observe him in contact with any Libyan officials.

This is to bring you up to date as to what happened yesterday and we will formally give you all of the details as soon as Lisker furnishes us with a comprehensive memorandum regarding his contact with Carter as he promised.

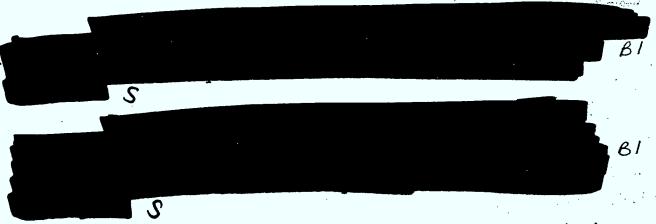
1 - Mr. Mullen

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This communication is classified secret to protect sensitive sources and others involved.

ATLANTA DIVISION

AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

1. Will contact Mario Leanza, 1510 Monroe Drive, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, to obtain the aforementioned photographs.

1.

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(97-5696) Director, FBI FROM:

SACs, Washington Field Office Atlanta (97-106) (Information) TO:

WILLIAM A. (BILLY) CARTER, III LIBYAN-ARAB GEORGIA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY FARA-LIBYA

Reference Washington Field Office (WFO) airtel dated

6/10/80.

Mr. Joel Lisker, Department of Justice, Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) Unit, has been advised.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

:Mr. E. J. O'Malley (10)

Memorandum SECRET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Public Affs. Off. Telephone Rm. Director's Sec

6/16/80

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

:R. T. Castong

SUBJECT: WILLIAM A. (BILLY) CARTER, III LIBYAN-ARAB-GEORGIA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY FARA - LIBYA

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All information is unclassified except as otherwise

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TO

PURPOSE:

provide a summary of this investigation.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINEL HEREIN IS UPCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

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SYNOPSIS:

On 4/24/79, the Department of Justice (DOJ) requested FBI to interview six associates of William A. (Billy) Carter, III relative to the Libyan-Arab Georgia Friendship Society (LAGFS), Billy Carter's trip to Libya, 9/78 and the Libyan delegation's trip to the United States 1/79. Results of interview furnished to DOJ 5/14/79. Billy Carter interviewed 1/16/80, by represent sentatives of DOJ and FBI as to his possible obligation to

JUL 7 1990

l - Mr. F. M. Mullen, Jr.

] - Mr. E. J. O'Malley

1 - Mr. R. T. Castonguay

1 - Mr. J. W. Johnson

SEE ADDENDUM. INTELLIGENCE DIVISION. PAGE 8

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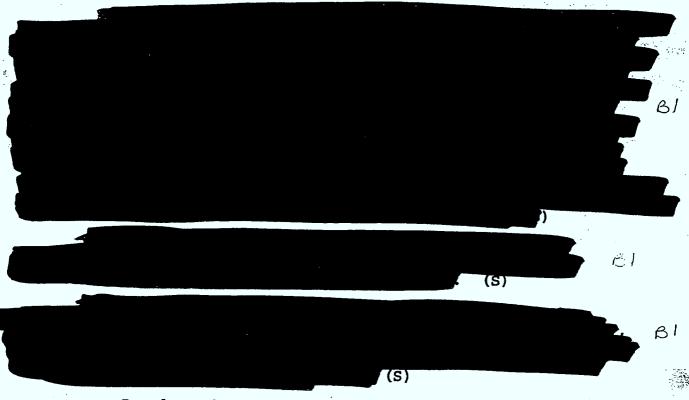
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Memorandum to Mr. E. J. O'Malley
Re: WILLIAM A. (BILLY) CARTER, III
LIBYAN-ARAB-GEORGIA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

SYNOPSIS: (CONT'D)

register with the Attorney General (AG) pursuant to Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), 22 U.S.C. 611 et seq. He furnished details of his association with Libyan officials and advised he had no formal or informal relationship with Libyan Government. Carter advised he telephoned Mr. Philip J. Wise, Jr., Appointments Secretary to the President of the United States, requesting information on aircraft purchases by the Libyan Government and received a telephone call from an official whose name he cannot recall from the Department of State (DOS).

On 3/14/80, Wise advised he had received telephone calls from Billy Carter but could not recall the above conversation or locate a record in his phone logs for pertinent period. On 6/4/60, Wise was reinterviewed and advised he had not received any telephone calls from Billy Carter during period 10/11/78 to 1/11/79 and there was no record of any logged calls from Carter during above period.



Results of surveillance coverage and contact with Joel Lisker, DOJ on 6/11/80, set forth.

Memorandum to Mr. E. J. O'Malley Re: WILLIAM A. (BILLY) CARTER, III LIBYAN-ARAB-GEORGIA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

DETAILS:

The DOJ, by letter dated 4/24/79, requested the six associates of Billy Carter be interviewed relative to the LAGFA, Billy Carter's trip to Libya, 9/78, and the Libyan delegation trip to the United States 1/79.

Interviews indicate Libyan Government initiated contact with associates of Billy Carter to promote friendship between Libya and the United States. The LAGFS was described as a friendship agreement between Libya and the United States. A charter was drawn by the Libyans and signed by 50 or 60 individuals in a gesture of friendship in 1/79. It appears this charter was never submitted to the Georgia State Corporation Commission.

Libyan Ambassador to Italy, Garbiel Shalouf met with Billy Carter in early 7/78, in Plains, Georgia, and invited him to Libya with the expenses paid by the Libyan Government. Shalouf returned to Atlanta in 9/78, and accompanied Carter and his associates to Libya, where they met many Libyan officials and visited a museum, agriculture and dairy farms. Billy Carter invited the Libyans to visit him in the United States during a dinner banquet, held the last night of the trip.

Results of interviews furnished to Department on 5/14/79, for their prosecutive opinion as to possible violation FARA, 22 U.S.C. 612 et seq.

On 1/16/80, Billy Carter was interviewed by Joel Lisker, U. S. DOJ and SA Confice relative to his possible obligation to register with the AG pursuant to provisions of the FARA, 22 U.S.C. 611 et seq. Carter advised during his trip, a good will mission, to Libya 9/78, there were no specific discussions about anything. He stated he had no knowledge of the Libyans efforts to take delivery of the aircraft purchased from Lockheed and Boeing which the U. S. Government had refused to issue export licenses. Carter stated when he returned to

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