

INSPECTOR GENERAL (b)(1)

77-0067 (b)(3)

11 January 1977

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1-11-77

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

FROM: John H. Waller
Inspector General

SUBJECT: Agency Review of Proposed Unofficial
Publications by Former Employees

REFERENCE:

1. In July 1976, the Director informed me that former CIA officer, Kermit Roosevelt, had called him with regard to a book he intended to write on U.S.-Iran relations which would contain information on the events surrounding the fall of Mossadegh in Iran in 1953. The Director, who said that he had referred Mr. Roosevelt to me, asked me to see what I could do to be of assistance to Mr. Roosevelt in following necessary clearance processes.

2. I informed Mr. Roosevelt orally that the approval process involved Agency inspection of the manuscript to determine whether sources or methods were revealed. I made reference to the case law established by the Marchetti decision. I added that in this matter the Agency would probably also be interested in whether or not the Shah of Iran would take umbrage at such a book. Mr. Roosevelt indicated that, to the contrary, the Shah, with whom he had discussed the idea, would in fact welcome the kind of book Mr. Roosevelt had in mind as one item in the forthcoming centennial celebration of the Pahlavi dynasty. On a later occasion, I reminded Mr. Roosevelt that still another factor he would have to consider was

3. I informed of the General Counsel's office by telephone in July of the Director's call and my subsequent comments to Mr. Roosevelt that the Office of General Counsel would inevitably play a role in the approval process. I suggested to that at some stage Mr. Roosevelt might call him directly to discuss his manuscript.

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4. Mr. Roosevelt, whom I see socially on occasion, has since mentioned that he is still working on his manuscript. He has not suggested that he has a publisher's contract. He has from time to time indicated that he was, in fact, having some difficulty in interesting a publisher, and that he probably should find editorial assistance to make his manuscript more saleable.

5. On one occasion since July, Mr. Roosevelt asked if he could have access to the official history of the TPAJAX operation to help him in his research. I replied that he was at liberty to apply for it under the Freedom of Information Act, but I thought his chances of getting anything released was negligible. He concluded, I believe, that his own memory would serve him adequately since he had been the prime participant in that operation. He did not indicate he would make an FOIA request.

6. I do not know at what stage of completion Mr. Roosevelt's manuscript may be at this time. Nor do I know how much of it may include material bearing on operation TPAJAX. I have seen none of Mr. Roosevelt's writing on this subject. Within the past month, Mr. Roosevelt expressed interest in seeing the manuscript written [redacted] on the life of Allen Dulles, which he heard was in Agency hands for clearance: he wanted to know how much of TPAJAX was covered by that author. I referred him to [redacted] of the General Counsel's office, who discussed with him the problem of revealing what a third person has written. Mr. Roosevelt was, for the same reasons, also interested in another book, already on the market, dealing with the life of the Shah.

7. Upon my receipt of reference proposed new regulation on 10 January 1977, I called Mr. Roosevelt to remind him the Agency felt strongly that manuscripts by former officials should be submitted for clearance before publication, and that the Office of General Counsel played an important role in this process.

[redacted]
John H. Waller

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