AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : CIA
RECORD NUMBER : 104-10414-10378
RECORD SERIES : JFK
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : RUSS HOLMES WORK FILE

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

AGENCY ORIGINATOR : CIA
FROM : JOHN WALLER
TO : MR. BUSH
TITLE : SUGGESTED DRAFT OF LETTER TO MR. DEMOHRENSCHILDT WITH ATTACHED RELATED DOCUMENTS AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP.
DATE : 09/02/1976
PAGES : 32

SUBJECTS : TRANSMITTAL SLI

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER
CLASSIFICATION : SECRET
RESTRICTIONS : 1B
CURRENT STATUS : RELEASED IN PART PUBLIC -. RELEASED WITH DELETIONS
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 11/19/98

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED 104-10414-10378
The attached suggested draft to Mr. De Mohrenschildt was written without knowledge of the flavor of your personal relationship with him. The tone may not be appropriate, but the message boils down to the fact that neither CIA nor the FBI appear to have been interested in Mr. De Mohrenschildt for a number of years.

This draft was coordinated with OGC on 22 Sep. 75.

John Waller

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<td>This is the response to the letter from Mr. George de Mohrenschildt that you gave me a few days ago.</td>
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FROM: John H. Waller
Inspector General
2 E 24 Hqs. Bldg.

EXTENSION NO.
6565 R-1252

DATE

[Signature]
John Waller
MEMORANDUM FOR:  Director of Central Intelligence
FROM:  John H. Waller
        Inspector General
SUBJECT:  Mr. George de Mohrenschildt
REFERENCE:  Mr. de Mohrenschildt's letter to you,
            dated 5 September 1976

Action Required:

1. None. This memorandum is for your information. We have also
   attached a suggested draft reply to Mr. de Mohrenschildt's letter.

Action Taken:

2. We have reviewed DDO and IG files on Mr. de Mohrenschildt. In
   addition, at our request, the CI Staff has run Agency traces on him and
   has been in touch with the FBI as well.

Findings:

3. There is voluminous material on Mr. de Mohrenschildt in CIA
   files, most of it dating from the post-Kennedy assassination period
   when he testified before the Warren Commission on his acquaintance
   with Mr. and Mrs. Lee Harvey Oswald. (A copy of the de Mohrenschildt's
   testimony is attached at B.)

4. The bulk of the material in our files consists of FBI reports,
   the most recent of which is dated 1967. The FBI has informed CIA that
   it has no traces on Mr. de Mohrenschildt beyond that date; our files
   contain all of its previous material on him.
5. Mr. Helms' 3 June 1964 memorandum for the Warren Commission on
the de Mohrenschilts is attached at C. It describes the Agency's
interest in obtaining reports from Mr. de Mohrenschilt in 1957 as a
result of his sojourn in Yugoslavia that year. Contact Division (now
Domestic Collection Division - DCD) had its resident agent in Dallas,
Mr. J. Walton Moore, contact Mr. de Mohrenschilt at that time. The
history of Mr. Moore's relationship with Mr. de Mohrenschilt from 1957
to 1961 is also attached at C. As a routine matter, Mr. Moore requested
traces on Mr. de Mohrenschilt. The trace results (attached at D) con-
tained sufficient derogatory information to preclude further extensive
contact with the de Mohrenschilts. (An OS summary on Mr. de Mohrenschilt
prepared in response to the current request is also attached at D.)

6. Our files show that a mail cover was placed on letters addressed
to Mr. de Mohrenschilt c/o the U.S. Embassy in Haiti from about 1964 to
1966. (This was probably not uncovered at the time of the external in-
vestigations.) This included opening and photographing the contents of
some letters by the CIA Station there. The results of this operation
were shared with the FBI.

7. Mr. de Mohrenschilt came to the attention of this office during
the Rockefeller Commission investigations. We were asked to respond to a
memorandum submitted to the Commission by Mr. Paul Hoch entitled "CIA
Activities and the Warren Commission Investigation." Mr. Hoch called for
an identification of Mr. J. Walton Moore's employment affiliation and
asked what Mr. Moore knew about Oswald and what he may have told Mr. de
Mohrenschilt about him. Our reply to the Rockefeller Commission is
attached at E.

8. The most recent information we have on Mr. de Mohrenschilt comes
from Mr. J. Walton Moore who was contacted in May and July 1976 by writers
connected with the Reader's Digest, and with the Dial Press and the Dell
Publishing Company. Both writers questioned Mr. Moore about Oswald and
Mr. de Mohrenschilt. Mr. Moore's reports on these contacts are attached
at F.

Conclusions:

9. Mr. de Mohrenschilt appears to have lead an adventurous and
colorful life as a petroleum engineer and businessman. He is both well
and poorly connected, and some of his associations in the past have raised serious questions. Certainly his relationship with the Oswalds has caused him considerable trouble and may have caused this Agency and the FBI to spend more time and energy on him in the past than was necessary.

10. Both the FBI and this Agency, however, had dropped their interests in Mr. de Mohrenschildt's activities by the mid-to-late 1960's. We speculate that any attention he is now receiving could either be from local authorities in Dallas or from media representatives on the trail of a warmed over story concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. We offer no proof of this conjecture beyond Mr. Moore's reports attached at F. What we can say is that we have found no indication that either CIA or the FBI has taken any active interest in Mr. de Mohrenschildt in recent years.

Attachments:
A thru F a/s
28 September 1976

Mr. G. de Mohrenschildt
2737 Kings Road
Apartment 142
Dallas, Texas 75219

Dear George:

Please forgive the delay in my reply to your September 5th letter. It took time to explore thoroughly the matters you raised.

Let me say first that I know it must have been difficult for you to seek my help in the situation outlined in your letter. I believe I can appreciate your state of mind in view of your daughter's tragic death a few years ago and the current poor state of your wife's health. I was extremely sorry to hear of these circumstances.

In your situation, I can well imagine how the attentions you described in your letter affect both you and your wife. However, my staff has been unable to find any indication of interest in your activities on the part of Federal authorities in recent years. The flurry of interest that attended your testimony before the Warren Commission has long since subsided. I can only speculate that you may have become "newsworthy" again in view of the renewed interest in the Kennedy assassination and, thus, may be attracting the attention of people in the media.

I hope this letter has been of some comfort to you, George, although I realize I am unable to answer your question completely. Thank you for your good wishes on my new job. As you can imagine, I'm finding it interesting and challenging.

Very truly yours,

George Bush
Director
CIA info on DeMohrenschildt summarized and sent to Warren Commission

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
President's Committee on the Assassination of President Kennedy

SUBJECT: George andAMES De MOHRENSCHILDTC

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 31 March 1964 requesting any information on George and James De MOHERNSCHILDTC that is available in CIA files. Our review shows that the files contain reports received from other U.S. Government agencies, primarily the FBI, as well as some information developed by this Agency in 1957 and 1958. The review also produced references to information in the records of the Coordinator of Information and the Office of Strategic Services. According to the records of those agencies, George De MOHERNSCHILDTC had been considered for employment in 1942, but was not hired because he was alleged to be a Nazi espionage agent. No information developed by CIA (or its predecessors) before the assassination of President Kennedy had established any link between the De MOHERNSCHILDTCs and Lee Harvey OSSWALD or his family.

2. CIA's initial interest in George De MOHERNSCHILDTC developed as a result of his sojourn in Yugoslavia in 1957 on behalf of the International Cooperation Agency (ICA). In that connection CIA headquarters sent a routine advisory to its Dallas representative who called on the De MOHERNSCHILDTCs in the early part of December 1957. In the course of several meetings the CIA representative obtained foreign intelligence which was promptly disseminated to other federal agencies in ten separate reports. The Dallas representative continued
informal, occasional contact with the DE MORGENSCHILDTS until the autumn of 1961. He has not seen them since that time, although he received a Christmas card from them during the holiday period following the assassination.

3. On the 23rd or 24th of November 1963, after the assassination, our representative in Dallas received a telephone call from one of his contacts who told him that several members of his firm had attended a social or a discussion group in January 1963 and that Lee Harvey OSWALD had also been there. Our representative immediately arranged for the FBI to contact the executive. It was later ascertained from the FBI, and from one of our own sources, that George De MORGENSCHILD was present at the meeting and had introduced OSWALD to the group.

4. At CIA headquarters the association between the De MORGENSCHILDTS and the OSWALDs was noted for the first time in December 1963 when it was reported from Haiti that the De MORGENSCHILDTS had appeared at the Embassy and volunteered information about their relationship with the OSWALDs. At about the same time the details of their association began to appear in reports made by other U.S. Government agencies engaged in investigating the assassination.

5. During the contact with George De MORGENSCHILD late in 1957 and early 1958, his background was investigated. Inquiries produced a considerable amount of information about him and his activities, including allegations that during World War II he had engaged in espionage activities on behalf of the Nazis; that he was a member of the Communist Party; and that after the war he was sympathetic toward Communism and the U.S.S.R. The investigation was extended to Belgium where George De MORGENSCHILD claimed to have lived from 1930 until 1938. His educational background had his work as a journalist were confirmed there. One record of arrest came to light: on 6 November 1931 he was sentenced by the Tribunal Correctional at Antwerp to eight days in prison on charges of...
resisting a police officer and to eight days imprisonment or a fine of 100 francs on charges of drunkenness and use of a false name. Sentence was suspended pending completion of a three-year probationary period.

6. Throughout his adult life, George De MOHREN SCHILDT has used variations of his basic name, including such variants as Jerry de MOHREN SCHILDT; Jerry von MOHREN SCHILDT; George von MOHREN SCHILDT; and George Sergius de MOHREN SCHILDT. In like manner he also seems to have varied his former ethnic origin from Russian, to Polish, Swedish, Danish, and German. There appear to be two versions of his mother's maiden name: Alexandra LATOSKEY and Alexandra ZAPOLSKY.

7. FBI Special Agent, James F. MORRISSEY, came to CIA on 19 March 1964 and reviewed the Agency's files on the De MOHREN SCHILDTs.

8. On 17 March 1964 the FBI furnished to this Agency a report dated 25 February 1964. The report provides details about one Yuri (George) De MOHREN SCHILDT in contact with Fedor Aleksandrovich GARANIN, who was a Soviet diplomat in Washington, D.C., in 1945. In that report Yuri (George) De MOHREN SCHILDT was described as a petroleum engineer who had worked in the Texas oil fields and in Venezuela. Concerning GARANIN, our records show that he has been a member of the Soviet State Security Service probably since the mid-1940's. He served in Cuba in 1943; after World War II he also served in the U.S., Hungary and Finland. According to our records, the information about GARANIN and his association with the Soviet State Security Service has also been known to the FBI.

9. You may also wish to make inquiries at the Office of Naval Intelligence; the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army; the Department of State; and the Civil Service Commission because these departments also have information about George De MOHREN SCHILDT.

Distribution:
Orig. & 1 - Addresses
2 - DDP
1 - C/Cl/R&A
1 - C/Cl/SIG
1 - C/WH/3
1 - Cl/R&A/Hartman
1 - Cl/R&A/201

3 Jan 64

DDP/C/Cl/R&A/Hartman

201 725 439
Details of J. Walter Moore's contact with George de Mohrenschmidt from 1957 to 1961, Moore from 00/Contact, Dallas office

1. I have known George de Mohrenschmidt and his wife since 1957. My latest actual contact with them was in the fall of 1961, although I received a Christmas card from them during Christmas of 1963. The card called from Port-au-Prince and a copy of my acknowledgement is attached.

2. After our late President's assassination, either on the 22d or 24th of November 1963, I received a telephone call from Mr. Paul Reichter, Director of the Secony Mobil Research Laboratory at Duncanville, Texas. Dr. Reichter advised that members of his staff had attended none of the social or discussion group in January 1963 at which Lee Harvey Oswald was present. No mention was made at this time of George de Mohrenschmidt. I told Dr. Reichter that he should report this information to the FBI and the FBI and asked if I could pass the information along. I called the FBI and they said they would send somebody out to talk to Mr. Reichter. I made no effort to follow up with the matter with Paul Reichter since I felt it was none of my business but during a visit with Mary Ann Dugan, the Librarian at Secony Mobil Research Lab and a good contact of mine for many years, she advised that she had heard that de Mohrenschmidt had befriended Oswald after his arrival in Dallas and had introduced him to a study group on the USSR in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

A. Duncanville, Texas USA
B. By initial contact with de Mohrenschmidt was the result of a source lead from headquarters, dated 22 Nov 57, advising that George de Mohrenschmidt had recently returned to Dallas after spending approximately a year in Yugoslavia on a job for the CIA. I called on de Mohrenschmidt in early December 1957 and submitted a name check, dated 6 Dec 57. At that time, de Mohrenschmidt gave me a copy of standard-personal history form 574, which gives considerable biographic data, which I am enclosing.

[Handwritten note: Lee H. Oswald 201-259-2425]

Document contains second-hand knowledge of Dr. Paul Reichter and Mary Ann Dugan, both of Secony Mobil, on Sunday, July 20, 1964.
At this time I saw and met Mrs. Jan de Mohrenschildt, a white Russian emigre from Shanghai. I saw the de Mohrenschildt's several times in 1953 and 1959. In late 1959 or early 1960, Mr. and Mrs. de Mohrenschildt went on an 18 month hiking trip through Mexico and Central America. An account of this trip, as taken from the 18 Oct 61 issue of the Dallas Times Herald, is enclosed.

4. In the way of a personal assessment, I would say that the de Mohrenschildt's are an interesting and unusual couple. This is, I believe, the second marriage for both of them. Mrs. de Mohrenschildt, who has been a successful dress designer, has a grown married daughter, who is quite a fine artist. George de Mohrenschildt has several children by his first wife (reportedly a very healthy woman now living in the Middle East). One of his children died of cystic fibrosis and George de Mohrenschildt has always been very active in the yearly cystic fibrosis fund raising campaign.

5. George de Mohrenschildt makes a good appearance. He is about six feet tall and weighs around 160 pounds. For a man his age, approximately 55, he keeps himself in good condition and is a bit of a physical fitness nut. He is a moderate drinker and when I last saw him, smoked a pipe. I would describe his personality as friendly and outgoing although I have heard his referred to as conceited. He reportedly has an eye for the ladies and I understand his interest does not go unreciprocated. He leads a somewhat unconventional life, plays tennis at 5 o'clock in the morning, is rather outspoken, has a keen interest in international affairs and in social justice. By local conservative standards, he would be considered a liberal. His outlook on life is continental.

6. De Mohrenschildt is fairly well known in petroleum circles in Dallas. I only know of one good friend of his. This is Col. Lawrence Golov (Retired) who is in the oil leasing business. The colonel and I both play handball. He mentioned the last time I saw him that de Mohrenschildt wanted him to come to Haiti to help his run a plantation and organize a company there. I believe that the de Mohrenschildt's left for Haiti in about February of 1963 but I am very vague on this point.

If there is any additional information I can furnish, please let me know. cit. USA acc. businessman A. Dallas, Texas USA

Good friend and business associate of George.

J. WALTON MOORE

Enclosures
as stated above.

/Imay 64

201-725439

SECRET

HL 33320 DocId:32392962 Page 14
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Chief, Contact Division, CO
FROM: Chief, Personnel Security Division, '08

SUBJECT: de NOHRENSCHILDT, George
AKA: von NOHRENSCHILDT, George Sergius
AKA: von NOHRENSCHILDT, Jerzy

A-6822-1

1. Reference is made to your request for a security clearance on the subject person as a potential source of intelligence information. The necessary checks have been completed with the following results:

   a. [ ] No additional information has been obtained, except for such biographic information as indicated below or in the attachment.

   b. [ ] Information has been received that Subject was investigated with favorable results in.

   c. [X] Certain information has been received and appears in the attachment which your Division will wish to consider in determining the extent and level of your use of Subject.

2. It is to be noted that our checks were made on the basis of the identifying information you furnished or in an attachment to this memorandum. Should it be disclosed that this information is erroneous or that Subject is known by a different name, this Division should be notified immediately.

[Signature]
W. M. Knott
Chief, Personnel Security Division

Attachment:
Summary

DISAPPROVED-U
THIS CATEGORY IS ASSIGNED BY INDEX FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY. THE HBG CHIEF DETERMINES LEVEL OF CLASSIFIED DISCLOSURE

EYES ONLY

#1622

CONFIDENTIAL
Subject was investigated by Federal Agencies in 1941, 1942, 1945, 1947, and 1957. The investigation reports as well as the files of other Federal Agencies reflect the following:

Between 1940 and 1942 Subject was considered to be pro-German and suspected of being a German propagandist and an espionage agent.

Several informants stated that Subject was in sympathy with the Communist form of government in Russia but knew of no un-American activities on the part of Subject. One informant advised in 1947 that Subject had definite Communist tendencies.

Investigations failed to produce any legal competent evidence or witnesses to substantiate the reports that Subject had been pro-Communist or pro-Nazi.

Majority of informants consider Subject to be eccentric, irresponsible, conceited, an adventurer fond of exaggeration, and overly aggressive.

Subject has been known to associate with persons of questionable loyalty, reputation, and moral character.

Subject, when interviewed, admitted that he tends to exaggerate and advised that he thought the Communist form of government of Soviet Russia was the better form of government on the European continent, and that he had a great admiration for the Communist form of government, but that that did not prevent him from having a stronger feeling of loyalty to the government of the United States.
George DE MOHRENSCHILD

From the Office of Security

CIA CONNECTION:

DE MOHRENSCHILD was security disapproved for OSS employ-
ment on 18 July 1942 because he was suspected of being a Nazi
agent. On 13 August 1958 derogatory information was furnished
the Contact Office who was interested in interrogating him as
an alien contact. His second wife, Phyllis whom he married on
11 July 1948 and divorced 29 December 1949, was employed as a
receptionist by a covert project (NCFE) from 1950 to 12 January
1951 when her employment was terminated. (Reason not given.)

Subject's brother, Dimitri S. VON MOHRENSCHILD, was
approved on 11 April 1950 for exploitation as a contact for
foreign intelligence purposes on a limited basis; not to receive
classified information above confidential.

OS INDICES RESULTS:

OS Files on Subject, his second wife, and his brother
reflect use by the Agency as set out above. Subject was
investigated by the FBI in 1941, 1942, 1945, 1947 and 1957.
Between 1940 and 1942 Subject was considered to be pro-German
and suspected of being a German propagandist and an espionage
agent. Several informants stated that Subject was in sympathy
with the Communist form of government in Russia but knew of
no un-American activities on the part of Subject. One infor-
mant advised in 1947 that Subject had definite Communist
tendencies. However, investigations failed to produce any
legal competent evidence or witnesses to substantiate the
reports that Subject had been pro-Communist or pro-Nazi. The
majority of informants consider Subject to be eccentric,
irresponsible, conceited, an adventurer fond of exaggeration
and overly aggressive. He has been known to associate with
persons of questionable loyalty, reputation and moral character.
Subject has admitted that he tends to exaggerate and stated
that he thought the Communist form of government of Soviet
Russia was the better form of government on the European
continent; that he had a great admiration for the Communist form of government but that this admiration did not prevent him from having a stronger feeling of loyalty to the government of the United States.

A New York Times item for 12 December 1966 mentioned that George DE MOHREN SCHILDT has been acquainted with Jacqueline KENNEDY's father, John BOUVIER, and mother, Mrs. Hugh AUCHIN- CLOSS, since Mrs. KENNEDY was a girl. The DE MOHREN SCHILDT's were quoted as saying they were perhaps the only persons in the world to have known the families of both President KENNEDY and OSWALD.
The attached documents are submitted for review and clearance to the Presidential Commission investigating the CIA. Please return, unmarked, to the Inspector General as soon as possible. Space for concurrence is provided below.

This paper MUST be ready for release to the Commission by noon 28 April.

1-10
I concur in the release of the attached documents to the Presidential Commission.

[Signature]

HANDCARRY
Was J. Walton Moore connected with CIA? Was he connected with the Oswald case?

**Answer:**

Mr. J. Walton Moore was employed by CIA in the Contact Division office in Dallas during the early 1960's. His only contact with the Oswald case prior to the assassination is recorded in his 1 May 1964 memorandum to the Acting Chief, Contact Division, attached at Tab 8 (a typed version of the document is also attached because of the poor legibility of the original). He may have been involved in the Agency's effort to support the Warren Commission during the Commission's investigations. Mr. Moore has stated that he was never asked by Mr. de Mohrenschloldt for advice concerning Oswald. We find no indication that there was ever any contact between Oswald and Mr. Moore.
Chief, Domestic Collection Division
Chief of Operations

Chief, Dallas Field Office

Inquiry from Richard Russell of Dial Press Concerning Dallas Field Office Association with Lee Harvey Oswald and George deMohrenschildt

198077

14 July 1976

1. On the evening of 13 July 1976, at about 2100, Mr. Richard Russell of the Dial Press and the Dell Publishing Company, came by my house. He advised that he was working on a book on the Kennedy assassination and that he understood I was a friend of George deMohrenschildt. He wanted to know if I had ever met Lee Harvey Oswald or if deMohrenschildt had ever suggested that I should see Oswald. I told him no on both counts and advised that I have not seen or talked with George deMohrenschildt since the fall of 1961.

2. Mr. Russell attempted to draw me into discussion of the Kennedy assassination which I avoided and wanted to know if I could give him the name of the chief of the CIA office in Mexico City in 1963. I told him I could not, and he said he could probably get the name from Mr. David Phillips. I do not foresee any adverse publicity as a result of Mr. Russell's visit but felt that it should be made a matter of record.

J. WALTON MOORE

J.WV/jb

EL IMPDET CL BY 003220
TO:  Chief, Domestic Collection Division  
FROM:  Chief, Dallas Field Office

DATE:  21 May 1976

SUBJECT: Inquiry from Reader's Digest Concerning Dallas Field Office Association with Lee Harvey Oswald and George deMohrenschildt

1. On 19 May 1976, Pam Butler, a research writer for Reader's Digest, called on the listed line. She identified herself as being with Reader's Digest and said she was doing research for a book being written by Harry Epstein on the Kennedy assassination. She asked if I had ever talked to or met Lee Harvey Oswald. I told her I had not. She then asked if I had talked to George deMohrenschildt about Lee Harvey Oswald. After I told her that I would not discuss the matter, she said that she understood from deMohrenschildt that I had talked to him after he had returned from a trip to Yugoslavia. I neither confirmed nor denied this, and I told her again I would not discuss the subject.

2. I do not know if Ms. Butler actually talked to deMohrenschildt or not since the information she had could have been acquired from the Warren Commission Report.

WALTON MOORE

JWN/jb
I do know this man DeMohrenschildt.

I first met him in the early 40's. He was an uncle to my Andover roommate.

Later he surfaced in Dallas—(50's maybe)

He got involved in some controversial dealings in Haiti.
Then he surfaced when Oswald shot to prominence. He knew Oswald before the assassination of Pres. Kennedy.
I don't recall his role in all this. At one time he had or spent plenty of money.

I have not heard from him for many years until the attached letter came in.

GR 9-17

[Signature: Russian-speaker]
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**Remarks:**
I was going to forward this to DCI Security, but since it's a "Dear George" letter and from Texas, I thought I should run it through you on the off chance that it is an acquaintance of the Director's.
ER has no record of previous correspondence from subject.
Dear George,

you will excuse this hand-written letter. Maybe you will be able to bring a solution into the hopeless situation I find myself in. My wife and I find ourselves surrounded by some vigilantes; our phone bugged and we are being followed everywhere. Either FBI is involved in this or they don't want to accept my complaint. We are driven to insanity by this situation.

I have been behaving like a damn fool ever since my daughter Nadja died in 1947 and 3 years ago I
tried to write, stupidly and unsuccessfully, about Lee Harvey Oswald and must have written a lot of people—I don't know. But do punish an elderly man like myself and my highly nervous and sick wife. It is really too much. Could you do something to remove this net around us? This will be my last request for help and I will not annoy you any more. Good luck in your important job.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

G. de Mohrenschildt

3727 Kingwood Road, Apt. 142

Tel. 421-1309 (Vc 214) Dallas 7521
Petitioner: Washington, D.C.

Department of Justice

Hon. Joseph P. Bush