

August 5, 1959

BY COURIER SERVICE

REG-61

77-80986-1

Major General Wilton B. Persons
The Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Persons:

By letter dated July 10, 1959, Mr. Henry Roemer McPhee requested an investigation be made of James Smith Bush. Enclosed herewith is a summary memorandum of inquiries conducted by this Bureau concerning Mr. Bush.

An individual interviewed during the investigation of Mr. Bush, who requested that his identity not be disclosed, advised that although he had no personal knowledge of any misconduct on the part of Mr. Bush, information had come to his attention through two personal friends of his, whose names he did not desire to be disclosed, that Mr. Bush had the reputation of being "quite a ladies' man." This person stated that his two friends had informed him that on one occasion in the lobby of a hotel in Louisiana, Mr. Bush had more or less openly propositioned a woman for a sexual affair and that Mr. Bush had on several occasions had affairs with women while he, Mr. Bush, was married.

The informant stated that he had the distinct impression from both of his personal friends that due to Mr. Bush's being a "ladies' man" he could not be trusted in a position involving trust and confidence since he could possibly be easily led astray by a beautiful woman.

72-862-1541
BY COURIER SMO

READ
2 20 00

[Redacted box]

b7C
b7D

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- DeLoach _____
- McGuire _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

F.N. BIF: bhg
(6)

See Note Page Two

Handwritten notes and signatures

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Major General Wilton B. Persons

The informant stated that "for the record" Mr. Bush is a person of good character, favorable associates and a loyal citizen, but "off the record" to people who know him, he is "quite a ladies' man" and could so involve himself with women that his actions might cause embarrassment in any Government position he might take.

It is noted that the two persons mentioned by the informant as his sources of information concerning the extramarital affairs of Mr. Bush were interviewed during this investigation and they did not furnish any information concerning any infidelities concerning Mr. Bush nor did any of the other individuals interviewed furnish such information.

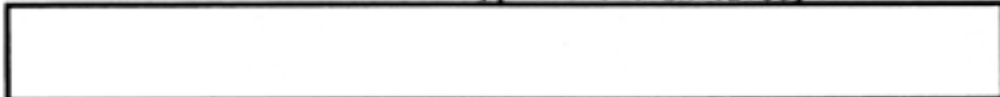
Please be advised that the investigation concerning Mr. Bush covered inquiries relative to his character, loyalty, general standing and ability, but no inquiries were made concerning the sources of his income.

Sincerely yours,

J. EDGAR HOOVER

Enclosure

NOTE: Request received 7/10/59 by letter dated 7/10/59 from White House. Bush an investment counsellor, St. Louis, Missouri, being considered as member, Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of Washington. Investigation generally favorable with exception Bush described as a heavy drinker and lost one position in a bank due to drinking; however, his drinking has been slight during past six or seven years. Bush is brother of United States Senator Prescott Bush of Connecticut. Copy of summary being furnished Attorney General since Presidential appointment involved.



b7C

b7D

information furnished to him by United States Senator Stuart Symington and Governor James Blair of Missouri. Symington and Blair interviewed and did not furnish any derogatory comments.