

Guide to  
the Microfilm Edition  
of the

**FBI File on  
Roy Cohn**

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## Introduction

This file covers Roy Cohn's career from the time he was the confidential assistant to the U.S. District Attorney in New York in 1952 to his indictment for participating in a possible payoff scandal involving the United Dye and Chemical Company. Materials include correspondence relating to the 1953 U.S. Army investigation by McCarthy, newspaper clippings, memos, teletypes, reports and affidavits.

The documents reproduced here were drawn from the Washington files of the FBI and have been released under the Freedom of Information Act; certain documents or portion of documents have been deleted by the FBI pursuant to provisions of that legislation. The material has been filmed in the exact order and condition in which it was released, and every effort has been made to publish the most legible copies available.

This file is in approximate chronological order, and the FBI did not index documents. The Roll Notes is not a complete inventory of the file; however, it gives an indication of the types of material or specific documents that may be particularly worthwhile for research.



## Roll Notes

**FBI File: 58-1232**

**VOLUME 1**

**Roll 1, 0001-0094**

*Mar 1962-Jan 1964*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Investigation into Robson and Cohn and an attempt to dismiss a Federal investigation of the United Dye and Chemical Corp.

News articles:

*N.Y. Daily News* (Mar 1962)

“Ex-Senator Got 100G Bribe In Stock Probe, Court Told”

*N.Y. Journal American* (Mar 1962)

“Hit Bender Bribe Story”

*N.Y. Times* (Mar 1962)

“Guterma Tells of Stock Parley”

“Guterma Asserts Bender Got Bribe”

**VOLUME 2**

**Roll 1, 0096-0145**

*May-Jun 1962*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Allegation that Roy Cohn received \$50,000 to have Sam Garfield and others excluded from an indictment re: the United Dye Corp

VOLUME 3

**Roll 1, 0147-0193**

*Jun 1962*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Investigation into the allegation that Robson and Cohn  
received \$50,000 to have Sam Garfield, et al., excluded  
from an indictment concerning stock fraud at United Dye

VOLUME 4

**Roll 1, 0195-0227**

*Jul 1962*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

VOLUME 5

**Roll 1, 0229-0277**

*Jul-Aug 1962*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

VOLUME 6

**Roll 1, 0279-0354**

*Aug-Sep 1962*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Investigation into the allegation that Robson and Cohn  
received \$50,000 to have Sam Garfield, et al., excluded  
from an indictment concerning stock fraud at United Dye

VOLUME 7

**Roll 1, 0356-0376**

*Oct 1962*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

VOLUME 8

Roll 1, 0378-0431

*Oct 1962-Jan 1963*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

News article:

*The Wall Street Journal* (Dec 1962)

“Roy Cohn Leaves Posts At Tower Universal;  
Group Buys Him Out”

VOLUME 9

Roll 1, 0433-0533

*Jan-Apr 1963*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Investigation into the allegation that Robson and Cohn

received \$50,000 to have Sam Garfield, et al., excluded  
from an indictment concerning stock fraud at United Dye

News article:

*The Wall Street Journal* (Feb 1963)

“The Roy Cohn Story”

VOLUME 10

Roll 1, 0535-0603

*Apr 1963*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

VOLUME 11

Roll 1, 0605-0714

*Jun-Sep 1963*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Request from U.S. Attorney Robert Morgenthau that his  
office be scanned for any technical devices (bugs)

News article:

*N.Y. World and Telegram* (Sep 1963)

“Roy Cohn Indicted On Perjury Charge”

News articles:

*N.Y. Journal American* (Sep 1963)

“Roy Cohn Indicted in Stock Quiz”

“Roy Cohn to Fight Official Vendetta”

*N.Y. World and Telegram* (Sep 1963)

“Cohn Dares Morgenthau to Prosecute Personally”

*The Wall Street Journal* (Sep 1963)

“Cohn is Charged with Conspiracy, Perjury in  
United Dye Fraud Case”

*N.Y. Post* (Sep 1963)

“Probe \$35,000 Bribe to Former U.S. Aide”

VOLUME 12

Roll 1, 0716-0824

Sep-Oct 1963

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn: Bribery; Perjury

News articles:

*N.Y. Times* (Sep 1963)

“Cohn Pleads Not Guilty in Court Where He Once  
was a Prosecutor”

*N.Y. News* (Sep 1963)

“Roy Cohn vs. Bob Kennedy: The Great Rematch”

*N.Y. Post* (Sep 1963)

“Cohn Asks One Judge for the Entire Case”



VOLUME 13

Roll 1, 0826-0877

*Nov-Dec 1963*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn: Bribery; Perjury

News articles:

*N.Y. Herald Tribune* (Nov 1963)

“Roy Cohn Charges Grand Jury With Operating in a  
Fish Bowl”

“Court Denies Cohn Plea to Dismiss Indictment”

*N.Y. Journal American*

“Roy Cohn Quits Board of Lionel” (Nov 1963)

“Judge Alters Roy Cohn’s Indictment” (Dec 1963)

*The Wall Street Journal* (Nov 1963)

“Roy M. Cohn Requests Dismissal of Perjury,  
Conspiracy Charges”

VOLUME 14

Roll 1, 0879-0920

*Dec 1963-Jan 1964*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn: Bribery; Perjury

News articles:

*N.Y. Herald Tribune* (Dec 1963)

“Judge Prunes Roy Cohn Indictment”

*N.Y. Times* (Dec 1963)

“Cohn Wins Point in Perjury Trial”

VOLUME 15

Roll 1, 0922-1004

*Jan-Feb 1964*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn: Bribery; Perjury

Investigation into Robson flight to Las Vegas to allegedly obtain a payoff (Aug 1959)

News articles:

*N.Y. Daily News* (Feb 1964)

“Roy Cohn: U.S. Grabs Mail”

*N.Y. Herald Tribune* (Feb 1964)

“Now it’s Roy Cohn vs. Post Office”

*N.Y. Times* (Feb 1964)

“Post Office Denies It Tampered with Cohn’s Mail”

**VOLUME 16**

**Roll 1, 1006-1109**

*Mar-May 1964*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn: Bribery; Perjury

Report concerning the death of a father of one of the jurors on the Cohn trial

**VOLUME 17**

**Roll 1, 1111-1168**

*May-Jun 1964*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn: Bribery; Perjury

Investigation of individuals for participation in the United Dye Case

Investigation into Robson flight to Las Vegas to allegedly obtain a payoff (Aug 1959)

**VOLUME 18**

**Roll 1, 1170-END**

*Jun 1964-Aug 1977*

**Roll 2, 0001-0017**

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn: Bribery; Perjury

Investigation into the activities of Murray E. Gottesman during Labor Day weekend 1959

News articles:

*N.Y. Herald Tribune* (Apr 1964)

“\$33,333 Testimony: Roy Cohn Sent Me”

“4 Who Confessed \$5 Million Stock Fraud  
Fined \$90,000”

SUB-B VOLUME 1

Roll 2, 0019-0198

*Feb-Apr 1964*

News articles include:

*N.Y. Post:*

“U.S. Accuses Cohn of Stalling for Time” (Feb 1964)

“Cohn Answering Perjury Charges” (Mar 1964)

*N.Y. Herald Tribune* (Feb 1964)

“U.S. Denies It Ever Opened Cohn’s Mail”

*N.Y. Times:*

“Tax Unit Ordered Cohn Mail Check” (Feb 1964)

“Cohn Loses Plea Over Mail Watch” (Mar 1964)

“Cohn is Accused of Bribery Deal” (Mar 1964)

“Fugazy Testifies Cohn Induced Him to Lie to U.S.  
Jury” (Apr 1964)

“Cohn Denies Plot; Accuses U.S. Aides” (Apr 1964)

*N.Y. Herald Tribune:*

“It’s Cohn vs. Prosecutor” (Mar 1964)

“Government Rebutts Cohn’s Grand Jury Testimony”  
(Mar 1964)

SUB-B VOLUME 2

Roll 2, 0200-0312

*Apr-May 1964*

News articles include:

*N.Y. Herald Tribune* (Apr 1964)

“Borrowed Big in ‘59 Cohn Says”

“FBI Agents Testify for Cohn Defense”

*The Wall Street Journal* (Apr 1964)

“Roy Cohn Trial Hears M. Gottesman Deny All Charges  
by Government”

*N.Y. News* (Apr 1964)

“Judge Quashes 1 Count Against Cohn, Gottesman”

“Death of Juror’s Kin Brings Cohn Mistrial”

*N.Y. World Telegram* (Apr 1964)

“Cohn Defense Attacks Credibility of Witnesses”

SUB-B VOLUME 3

Roll 2, 0314-0431

*Jun 1964-Mar 1965*

News articles include:

*N.Y. Times:*

“Hoffa Exposes Bid Laid to Kennedy” (Mar 1965)

“Cohn’s Lawyer Rests Case in Perjury Charge Retrial”  
(Jul 1964)

“Two Suing Cohn Win \$552,200 Judgment”  
(Jun 1964)

*N.Y. Herald Tribune* (Jul 1964)

“Cohn Wins the Case He Bet \$1 He’d Lose”

*N.Y. World Telegram* (Jul 1964)

“Roy Cohn Acquitted”

**FBI File: 62-97564**

**SECTION 1**

**Roll 2, 0433-0556**

*May 1952-Feb 1954*

Roy Marcus Cohn, summary of bureau files

Cohn background information

Report that Cohn is under consideration for special assignment by Attorney General McGranery

Loyalty investigation of Roy Cohn

Transcript from the "Meet the Press" television program (May 1953) with guest: Roy M. Cohn, Chief Counsel for the Senate Investigating Committee headed by Sen. Joseph McCarthy

Report of tension between Roy M. Cohn and Robert Kennedy, former counsel to the Committee

News article:

*The Washington Post* (Feb 1954)

"Schine Leads Charmed Life"

**SECTION 2**

**Roll 2, 0558-0699**

*Mar-Aug 1954*

Roy Marcus Cohn, bureau files

Report on the draft status of Roy Cohn and review of his military record

Allegation that Roy Cohn has access to FBI files

News article:

*N.Y. Herald Tribune* (Apr 1954)

"Did Cohn See FBI Files?"

*Washington Star* (Apr 1954)

“Attackers of Reds are Targets For Vile Abuse,  
Hoover Says”

Attempts to interview Roy Cohn re: Charles B. Murray,  
alleged espionage

News article:

*The Washington Post* (Jul 1954)

“Cohn Tells Role in Prosecution of Reds”

“Red-Hunter Expects Attacks, Cohn Says”

*Executives Club Newsletter* (Sep 1954)

“Stop Investigating the Investigators, Cohn Tells  
2000 at Club’s 44th Annual Opener”

Allegation that Roy Cohn transmitted classified FBI files  
to unauthorized personnel

SECTION 3

Roll 2, 0701-0857

*Jun 1957-Sep 1969*

Roy Marcus Cohn, bureau files

Cohn’s review of the book:

“Communist Trials and the American Tradition”  
by John Somerville reprinted from the  
Texas Law Review (Jun 1957)

Reprint from the Fordham Law Review (Summer 1959):

“The Supreme Court and the A.B.A. Report and  
Resolutions”

by Roy M. Cohn and Thomas A. Bolan

Excerpt from a William Buckley television program  
(Jan 1968) featuring Roy M. Cohn

News article:

*The N.Y. Times* (Jun 1969)

“3 in FBI Shifted Over Cohn Case”

N.Y. Post (Jun 1969)

“Cohn Denies Role in Transfer of 3 FBI Agents  
in Probe”

SECTION 4

**Roll 2, 0859-0916**

*Sep 1969-May 1985*

Information regarding Roy M. Cohn’s trial re: Securities and  
Exchange Commission case

Enclosure

**Roll 2, 0918-0933**

News article:

*Esquire Magazine* (Feb 1968)

“Believe me, this is the truth about the Army-McCarthy  
hearings. Honest.” by Roy M. Cohn

**FBI File 121-22901**

**Roll 2, 0935-0991**

*May 1950-Feb 1951*

Loyalty investigation of Roy M. Cohn, applicant for job  
in the office of the U.S. Attorney for the Southern  
District of New York

**FBI File 149-2822**

**Roll 2, 0993-0997**

*Aug 1963*

Investigation into the anonymous phone call placed to the  
mother of Roy Cohn, threatening in nature

**FBI File 166-3662**

**Roll 2, 0999-1029**

*Jun-Nov 1974*

Roy Cohn: Extortion victim

**FBI File 166-6493**

**Roll 2, 1031-1059**

*Jun 1974-Jan 1975*

Roy Cohn: Extortion victim

Investigation into the takeover of a pornographic movie theatre in Irvington, NJ

Certificate of Incorporation of Dolphin Brothers, Inc.

**FBI File: 58-5100**

**SECTION 1**

**Roll 2, 1061-END**

*Mar-Jul 1962*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Allegation that Robson and Cohn received \$50,000 to insure that four men would not be indicted in the United Dye and Chemical Corp. case

Investigation into the activities of Roy Cohn during a visit to Las Vegas, Aug-Sep 1959

**SECTION 2**

**Roll 3, 0001-0126**

*Jun-Sep 1962*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Investigation into the alleged payoff of \$50,000 to Robson and Cohn, Aug-Sep 1959

Allegation that the Justice Department was contacted with the offer of exchanging Las Vegas (relief of pressure on the gambling industry) for Roy Cohn



SECTION 3

Roll 3, 0128-0326

*Sep 1962-Feb 1963*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Investigation into the alleged payoff of \$50,000 to Robson  
and Cohn, Aug-Sep 1959

Report concerning a questionable deduction on Roy Cohn's  
tax return for 1959

News article:

*The Washington Post* (Nov 1962)

"Stock Fraud Trial Longest in History"

SECTION 4

Roll 3, 0328-0435

*Feb-Apr 1963*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Investigation into contributions made to the New York  
County Committee of the Republican Party, 1960  
Presidential campaign

SECTION 5

Roll 3, 0437-0585

*Apr-Sep 1963*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn; Bribery

Transcript of a Barry Gray radio program with his guest  
Roy Cohn

Indictment of Roy Cohn for perjury, conspiracy, and  
obstruction of justice based on Grand Jury probe

SECTION 6

Roll 3, 0587-0805

*Sep 1963-Jan 1964*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn, Murray E. Gottesman; Bribery,  
Obstruction of Justice; Perjury

Memorandum for dismissal of indictment (Nov 1963)

Reprimand by Judge Dawson of Cohn attorney, Thomas  
Bolan, for allegedly "leaking" information which  
appeared in print in Life magazine

SECTION 7

Roll 3, 0807-1063

*Jan-May 1964*

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn, Murray E. Gottesman; Bribery,  
Obstruction of Justice; Perjury

Business Registration regarding Pan-Orient Enterprises, Ltd.  
News articles:

*N.Y. Times* (Feb 1964)

"Roy Cohn Says U.S. Intercepts Mail"

*N.Y. Daily News* (Feb 1964)

"Roy Cohn: U.S. Grabs Mail"

Investigation into the allegation that the U.S. Post Office had  
been intercepting mail addressed to Roy Cohn and his  
attorney Thomas Bolan

Transcript of the testimony of Louis B. Nichols as a witness  
for Mr. Roy Cohn

Declaration of mistrial by Judge Dawson due to the death of  
the father of one of the jurors. June date set for retrial.

SECTION 8

Roll 3, 1065-END

May 1964-Jan 1970

Roll 4, 0001-0033

Morton Robson, Roy Cohn, Murray E. Gottesman; Bribery,  
Obstruction of Justice; Perjury

Report concerning re-trial of the defendants knowing that  
seven present and former FBI agents have received  
subpoenas to testify

Not guilty verdict rendered for Cohn and Gottesman

Louis B. Nichols explains his testimony in a 2-page letter  
to J. Edgar Hoover

SECTION SUB-A

Roll 4, 0035-0188

VOLUME 1

Jun 1963-Nov 1969

News articles include:

*The Evening Star* (Sep 1963)

“Roy Cohn Is Indicted on Perjury Charges”

“Cohn Charges He is Victim of Retaliation”

*The Washington Post* (Sep 1963)

“Roy Cohn Indicted for Conspiracy and Perjury in Stock  
Fraud Case”

*N.Y. Daily News* (Sep 1963)

“Roy Cohn vs. Bob Kennedy: The Great Rematch”

“Roy Cohn Slams U.S., Asks Case Be Killed”

*N.Y. Herald Tribune*:

“Court Denies Cohn Plea to Dismiss Indictment”  
(Nov 1963)

“His Co-Defendant Backs Cohn Story at Perjury  
Trial” (Apr 1964)

“The Cohn Case—A Step to Avoid Second Mistrial”  
(Jul 1964)

*The Wall Street Journal* (Mar 1964)

“U.S. Says Gambler Paid Cohn to Kill United Dye  
Charges”

*N.Y. Post* (Apr 1964)

“Roy Cohn’s Mistrial—What the Jurors Say”

*N.Y. Daily News* (Nov 1969)

“Cohn Trial is Halted Again As His Attorney  
Collapses”

*The New York Times* (Nov 1969)

“Witness Says He Lied in 1968 When Testifying  
on Cohn Bribe”

VOLUME 2

Roll 4, 0190-0235

Nov 1969-Apr 1970

News articles include:

*The Wall Street Journal*:

“Cohn Trial Prosecution Completes Presentation;  
Defense Opens Monday” (Nov 1969)

“New Cohn Trial Delayed At Least Until Autumn”  
(Apr 1970)

*The New York Times*: (Nov 1969)

“Witness Amends Cohn Testimony”

“Cohn’s Lawyers Ask Dismissal As Government Rests  
Its Case”

*The Evening Star* (Dec 1969)

“Cohn, 2 Others Acquitted Of Bribery Conspiracy”

Enclosure Behind File **Roll 4, 0237-0291**  
*Sep 1963*

Outline of the Indictment prepared by the Office of the  
U.S. Attorney, Southern District of New York

Transcript: 63 Cr. 748

United States District Court Southern District of NY  
U.S.A. vs. Roy M. Cohn, et al.

Enclosure Behind File **Roll 4, 0293-0318**  
Transcript of the testimony of Louis B. Nichols

**FBI File 9-31071** **Roll 4, 0320-0339**  
*Oct-Nov 1956*

Sen. Joseph McCarthy, et al., Extortion Victim

Investigation of threatening post cards sent to Sen. Joseph  
McCarthy and Roy Cohn

**FBI File 29-61044** **Roll 4, 0341-0342**

News article:

*The New York Times* (Oct 1971)

“Judge in Roy Cohn Case Rejects Prosecution Bid  
for a Mistrial”

**FBI File 45-11251** **Roll 4, 0345-0476**

VOLUME 1

*Aug 1973-Mar 1976*

Crime on the High Seas

Investigation into the fire and sinking of the vessel

*Defiance*, off the coast of Cape Canaveral, FL  
Certification of Incorporation of the "Ancor Inc."  
Transcript: U.S. District Court Southern District of  
Florida, No. 73-982-civ-CF  
Ft. Lauderdale Candlelight Corp., d/b/a Bahia mar,  
v.  
M/V *Defiance*

VOLUME 2

**Roll 4, 0478-0501**

*Sep 1976-Nov 1977*

Crime on the High Seas

Investigation into the fire and sinking of the vessel

*Defiance*, off the coast of Cape Canaveral, FL

Report concerning the payment of insurance money from  
Lloyd's of London re: the *Defiance*

**FBI File NY 62-11505**

**Roll 4, 0503-0570**

*Oct 1957-Dec 1969*

News articles:

*The N.Y. Post* (Jan 1958)

"Mike Wallace Asks Roy Cohn: Is McCarthyism  
Dead?"

*The New York Times*:

"Roy Cohn Is Elected Chairman Of 33-Million  
Bank in Chicago" (Mar 1957)

"Roy Cohn to Seek Dismissal of Charges  
Remaining Against Him" (Dec 1969)

*N.Y. Daily News* (Sep 1969)

“Cohn Prosecution Lists 25G Bribes”

*The Record* (Sep 1969)

“A Magazine Details FBI’s Retaliation”

*Life Magazine* (Sep 1969)

“The Hotshot One-Man Roy Cohn Lobby”

**FBI File 62-14207**

**Roll 4, 0572-0611**

*Jun-Jul 1969*

Robert M. Morgenthau, U.S. Attorney requests statements and confessions from FBI records pertaining to Roy Cohn, et al.

News article:

*The N.Y. Post* (Jun 1969)

“Cohn Denies Role in Transfer of 3 FBI Agents in Probe”

**FBI File 62-97564**

**Roll 4, 0613-0664**

*1969*

Transcript: U.S. District Court Southern District of New York, 69 Cr.55

The United States of America vs. Roy Cohn, et al.

News articles:

*Life Magazine* (Sep 1969)

“The Hotshot One-Man Roy Cohn Lobby”

*New York Magazine* (Aug 1969)

“Nixon vs. the City’s Top Crimefighter”

**FBI File 65-61878**

**Roll 4, 0666-0690**

*Mar 1953-Jun 1954*

Roy Cohn: Espionage

Investigation into a confidential State Department document  
found in the possession of Roy Cohn  
Army-McCarthy Hearings

**FBI File 72-141**

**Roll 4, 0692-0722**

*Mar 1962*

Roy Cohn: Obstruction of Justice

News articles:

*N.Y. World Telegram* (Mar 1962)

“Roy Cohn Subpoenaed For Grand Jury Quiz”

*N.Y. Mirror* (Mar 1962)

“Grand Jury Calls Cohn in Bribe Probe”

*The Wall Street Journal* (Dec 1962)

“Unregistered Stock Sale is Alleged in Trial  
of Singer, Bean & Mackie and Six Others”

**FBI File 72-1379**

**Roll 4, 0724-0787**

*Feb 1962-Oct 1969*

Roy Cohn: Obstruction of Justice

Request surveillance be conducted on Roy M. Cohn

**FBI File 72-1906**

**Roll 4, 0789-0795**

*Oct 1969*

Investigation into the allegation of obstruction of justice in  
the trial of Roy M. Cohn



**FBI File 77-37227**

**Roll 4, 0797-END**

*Dec 1947-Oct 1963*

Background check of employee Roy M. Cohn