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DISPATCH

OPHA-5513

Chief, W.

18-6-2

Chief of Station, [redacted]

29 August 1964

Station/Operations -- Survey of Official and Overt Activities of Soviet Officials.

None, for information only.

WEC Field Notice No. 285, 28 May 1964

1. In reply to the referenced Field Notice, we cite the following instances (of which [redacted] has knowledge) of Soviet efforts to establish official and social contact and personal rapport with local government officials, political leaders, and persons in the fields of economics, science, technology, labor relations, cultural matters, etc. Included also are some instances of Soviet contacts with OGYOKK representatives in Helsinki. According to VACO DRR/6, Soviet efforts to cultivate local citizens noticeably increased during 1964-65, and have continued since that time. In July 1964 VACO DRR/1 gave Fredrikson a long lecture on recent changes in local Soviet social practices. He said in brief that the Soviets since approximately mid-1957 have been coming more and more out of social isolation and making social contacts somewhat in the manner of Westerners; they rent summer and winter cottages outside of Helsinki and invite individual Finns or small groups over for an evening featuring innocuous conversation and drinking. The Soviets try to keep the Finns they are cultivating on a social merry-go-round, i.e., they try to make the Finns socially indebted and then another them with further invitations, free tickets, etc., which are hard to turn down. All this makes the VACO DRR's work of keeping track of Soviet activities much more difficult. [redacted] is trying to get more detailed information from the VACO DRRs.)

a. In the fall of 1964, Mikhail Grigoryevich [REDACTED] (* indicates known RIS), Counselor of the Soviet Embassy, invited VALUTOR/1 to a private dinner after having met VALUTOR/1 at an official reception at the Soviet Embassy.

b. Ivan S. [REDACTED], Soviet Counsel in Helsinki from 1964 until 1967, occasionally had lunch with VACO DRR/1, and some officers of the [redacted] (separately). On at least one occasion, Turi H. VACO DRR was present at a lunch including [redacted] personnel.

c. Turi H. VACO DRR maintained social contact with Sherman C. Torreyson from early 1965 until August 1966.

d. Viktor P. [REDACTED], Third Secretary at the Soviet Embassy, has tried to gain membership in the Western Foreign Press Club (WFPC) but was refused. He has cultivated various members of the WFPC through invitations to lunch. These include Joseph S. Tiffany and Boris VACO DRR, an Italian newspaperman. He also occasionally entertains VACO/1.

e. Grigory Ye [REDACTED], Soviet Counsel who replaced I. E. [REDACTED], joined the Helsinki Commercial Corps, which had previously had no Sino-Soviet bloc representatives, in the fall of 1967. Since the Commercial Corps is not specifically a "Western" body, the Corps had no valid reason to refuse his entry. As far as is known, no other Sino-Soviet bloc representatives have followed OOLUB into the Corps.

f. During 1966, VALUTOR/1 has had several negotiations with the Soviet Commercial Mission in Helsinki regarding Soviet purchases of soap-making machinery and soap. VALUTOR/1 has also visited Leningrad in connection with these negotiations and plans to visit Moscow for further talks.

g. VACO DRR/1 has sent a Finnish medical student to study in the USSR. To return, the Soviets intend to send three medical students on short visits to "Jinian". Many categories of persons in the fields of science, technology, construction work, and agriculture (both Finnish and Soviet) will visit each other's country within the framework of the Farmo-Soviet Technical and

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ORNL-SSLJ

Scientific Collaboration Agreement. (see ORNL-2444).

- b. Numerous contacts have taken place between COMEX, COMIT, opacit' representatives and their Soviet counterparts. Most of these have been attended them, particularly those having some connection with the Finland-Soviet Union Society. VAKH/1 has attended less frequently since he prefers to avoid the cocktail circuit.

1. VAKH/3 and VAKH/1 frequently receive invitations to Soviet cultural parties and other official functions. VAKH/3 has occasionally attended them, particularly those having some connection with the Finland-Soviet Union Society. VAKH/1 has attended less frequently since he prefers to avoid the cocktail circuit.

2. VIKTOR N. VLADIMIROV¹, according to the VACMUS, was spotted in early 1959 picking up an unidentified Social Democratic member of the Diet in a covert manner and later letting his car off the car in an isolated spot. He has not been able to identify the Social Democrat, but the VACMUS spoke to him and even though he claimed that his association was innocent, the VACMUS strongly advised him to stay away from the Soviets.

3. He was also advised by VAKH/1 that the present Secretary of the Finnish People's Party and former Minister of Defense Pekka PALVILAINEN gave V. N. VLADIMIROV¹ some American maps after returning from an USA trip to the United States. VAKH/1 reported that VLADIMIROV¹ had known VLAKH¹. VLAKH¹'s son said that VLADIMIROV¹ seems to be especially interested in the Finnish Reserve Officer Association.

1. V. N. VLADIMIROV¹ has also made attempts to cultivate the LILOK/1 correspondent here, Lancelot FRENCH. Similarly, V. N. VLAKH¹ tried to cultivate Donald HIR, an expatriate American journalist here, to the extent that VLAKH¹ offered HIR an expense-paid trip to Riga, Latvia. HIR refused.

2. Ambassador LEKHET and Counselor KUOK¹ in 1955 and 1956 had several luncheons with leading Social Democratic men as LEKHET and KUOK¹. In late 1957 and so far in 1958, there has been no such lunches or invitations by the Soviets to high members of the Social Democratic Party (as opposed to the Communists), according to VAKH/4.

3. V. N. VLAKH¹⁺, who has been identified in the VLAKH¹ operation as a KGB officer specializing in American and British contacts, also has been with leaders of Helsinki bullet and theater circles (this wife is a former ballerina of Hungarian ancestry) and occasionally has liaison with the Finnish-Soviet Friendship Society.

2. The Soviets have numerous advantages for operating in Finland. Some of their principal advantages are:

- a. A larger staff of representatives than any other country; a larger staff than either of the Finns security services trying to keep track of them.
- b. Ownership of several buildings or apartments in Helsinki alone.
- c. A large indigenous Communist Party.
- d. They own a large business firm which has gas stations in almost every Finnish hamlet, namely, Trusti Vaiva Penttilä.
- e. Lack of definitive audio-surveillance equipment and know-how on the part of the Finnish security services.
- f. The longest common border with any Western European country; this border is not heavily guarded on the Finnish side.
- g. Soviet officials stationed in many cities sold from Helsinki.
- h. The Finns' weakness for alcohol.

- i. Class officers who specialize in various strata of Finnish society, as opposed to middle-class Western country staffs which do not have time or will power to specialize.

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CONTINUATION OF
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CPHA-3413

- j. The largest number of tourists transiting Finland in both directions.
- k. A cultural, scientific and technical collaboration agreement for cover of intelligence operations.
- l. Large numbers of Finns either working on hydroelectric stations in the Soviet Union or going to Leningrad and Moscow as tourists. This furnishes excellent cover for spotting, assessing, recruiting and other operational activities.

Oliver P. Wallmark

Malvin F. Pendleton

27 August 1958

Distribution:

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APPENDIX: (add to end of paragraph 2)

m. Two Soviets who have been quietly asked to leave Finland were KGB officers who were brazenly propositioning several Finnish citizens upon very short acquaintance and who made very little effort to hide the fact that they were interested in espionage against Finland. Furthermore, virtually no Soviet agents who have had direct contact with Soviet case officers in Finland have been arrested and prosecuted. Those Finns prone to work for the Soviets and Soviet case officers themselves have very little to fear from Finnish law enforcement bodies as long as they are not too brazen in their activities.

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