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Interview of Shirley Stetson

Date: July 11, 1978

Interviewed by Betty Wolf and Charles Beck

A copy of the omnibus letter was provided to Mrs. Stetson who read it and indicated that she understood the contents.

Mrs. Stetson stated that she was employed by the CIA as a desk officer in the Support Branch of the Office of Operations from 1960 through 1970. She explained that the function of this office was to provide support to the Clandestine Service from information obtained through Office of Operations collections. She performed a variety of duties, including a CI function, whereby information of a counterintelligence nature obtained from a source would be passed to the CI staff for possible dissemination to other agencies. Mrs. Stetson advised that she is still employed by the CIA and ^{will shortly} ~~is~~ assuming the position of Chief

Mrs. Stetson stated that, within the time period of 1959-63, the Office of Operations was primarily in contact with academics and businessmen who were travelling overseas. Their primary interest was in information of a scientific, technological or economic nature. Their method of contact was generally through the scientific, cultural and business communities. She advised that prospective travellers were occasionally briefed prior to their trips, but that briefings were given only in the area of the person's expertise. ^{Mrs. Stetson stated} ~~so that they would~~ that there are currently "Revised Area Briefing Regulations" out of DCD but that she did not know whether there were any similar written regulations during the period in question. She further advised that tourists were occasionally briefed before they travelled abroad. SECRET

Mrs. Stetson advised that she had no recollection as to requirements

* She also informed us that both the Office of Security and the O.O. ~~maintained~~ maintained a record of security traces on individuals who were contacted by the Contact Division if they were plying to classified information.]

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for the collection of photographs from sources. She also could not recall the manner in which photographs were handled at Headquarters, but she advised that the persons who may have been responsible for the handling of photographs during this time period were [redacted] and [redacted] both formerly with D.C.B. and presently retired.

✓ Mrs. Stetson stated that she believed that the Soviet Division had a particular interest in informant guides as it was common knowledge that there was a close association between the KGB and ^{the} informant organization.

Mrs. Stetson stated that she had no knowledge of the possible debriefing activities within the Clandestine Services.

[*] Mrs. Stetson was shown the photograph of ^{LHO in} Minak that is designated as "HH-12546". She stated that this number is a designation for miscellaneous material which probably would have been sent to Clandestine Services to see if ^{CS} they had an interest in the photo. She advised that the "HH" was a designation used by the Office of Operations to represent a spontaneous request from a Contact Division field office for record-keeping purposes. She explained that the Support Branch was responsible for coding names, requirements, and cases for the Office of Operations and that separate card files were maintained on each of these.

✓ In regard to this photo, she advised that prior to the assassination, the ^{male} person in the background had not been identified as Oswald. Instead, the photo had been retained because of the presence of the informant guide. After the assassination, pursuant to memos written in February & March 1964 from Lee H. Wigren in C/SR/CI/Research requesting reports and photos from the Office of Operations pertaining to Minak, a man from DDO came over to review their files. Mrs. Stetson believes this action was handled through an O.O. Security Officer, [redacted], who is now retired. Through this file search, the person from DDO picked out

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the photo with Oswald in it.

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Mrs. Stetson identified WA-63368 as a teletype to the [redacted] office which referred to a telephone conversation of March 17, 1964. She identified [redacted] as the chief [redacted]. She stated that she could not recall how the questions ~~raised as to the specifics~~ concerning the photo and the contact with the 2 women were resolved.

When questioned as to whether files were maintained on items that were designated as "HH", Mrs. Stetson replied that such files do exist. In the instance of HH-12546, the number would have been assigned when the photo was retained at Headquarters. Then it would have been disseminated to other interested components within the Agency which, in this case, was probably the SR Division.

Mrs. Stetson was shown a copy of 218 WA which she identified as a teletype from the Los Angeles field office, probably dated 19 March 1964 at 1845 hours. She stated that the "GMP" staff was within the Office of Operations and that the initials stood for "Graphics, Maps, and Publications".

In reference to ^{the} various filing system within the Office of Operations, Mrs. Stetson advised that the office also maintained source and organization files.

Mrs. Stetson explained that the reason that the photo was found by someone from DDO was probably because ^{the office} ~~the office~~ upon receipt of the requests in February and March 1964, realized that it would be too time-consuming and thus the man from DDO was sent over to do the file search.

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Name	Defective	Ret. to U.S.	201 - Opening	Debriefing
✓ Jones, Louis Henry	Cuba 1961 Moscow 1963 - on business	8/25/66	5/25/62 on 9/29/61 FBI doc.	No Record
✓ Grendinger, Martin	1957 to USSR; married there 1958; Ret. to USSR 12/60	7/23/59	9/1/63 - No source doc.	No Record []
✓ Meyer, Karl Henry	E. Germany - 6/61; in USSR sometime Oct. 6-10/61	5/66	9/4/69 on 2/25/66 FBI doc.	No Record
✓ Block, Mollie (see Morris Block)	—	—	No date; on 3/28/62 Army doc.	—
✓ Martinkus, Anthony Vitas	By Jan. 19, 1961	2/64	12/12/66 - No source doc.	No Record
✓ Gold, Robert	1961; Uncontacted Sov. Emb. in D.C. in Sept. & Oct. 1967	1961	9/17/68; on 8/2/68 FBI doc.	No Record
✓ Parker, Jas. Dudley	10/23/60	?; in Cal. as of 8/65	11/1/60 - No source doc.	No record
✓ Rubinsky, Shirley	1961 - Rea. U.S. cit. & reg. Sov. cit.; arrived Moscow Nov. or Dec. 1962	Rep. for ret. to U.S. in 2/63	Eligible; on 1964 FBI doc.	No record
✓ Ricciardelli, Yibero	7/59	4/28/63 on nonquota immigrant visa	12/21/60 - SI SIG as source doc.	1) 7/2/63 Report of info. telephonically furnished Regional Intelligence Officer, Bur- lington Vt. 2) Chronology indicates co. field office in Boston debriefed him on 7/19/63.

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Name	Defection	Ret. to US	201 - Opening	Debriefing
Frank, Susan ^{Pilot}	China 12/59-5/61; in USSR @ 1961 en route to U.S.	6/61	8/9/57 on FBI doc., active CP member	No Record
Pittman, John Dixon	Arr. Moscow 10/6/59 [From machine listing - not in 201 file]	Dep. Moscow @ 8/62	12/10/68 on 10/10/68 FBI Report	No Record
Winston, Henry	9/61 Went to USSR as CPUSA delegate to 22nd Congress of CPSU	2/64	No date; no source doc.; probably opened by early 1950's	No record
Letynell, Harold	2/27/58 Arr. Copenhagen w/family from Moscow on 6/29/59	4/6/60 on 7/23/59 FBI doc.	1/7/6/59 [Cable from Copenhagen] Suieta; indicates they were unable to obtain complete or coherent story "consider full & controlled debriefing by CIA; FBI desirable." 2) 7/16/59 Memo, Angleton to Dir., FBI; re: Letynell. Includes paragraph stating CIA requests results of any investigation by FBI. "He would be pleased to give any assistance necessary, including joint participation in the debriefing of Subject in precise details as his experiences in the USSR and his contacts while abroad." 3) No CIA docs. ^{actual} re: debriefing; FBI Reports of: a) 7/9/59; b) 7/23/59; and c) 8/21/59	
Sloboda, Vladimir	8/2/60 USSR - left [redacted]	—	11/17/60 on 8/7/60 Cable	Life interviewed after leaving husband in USSR - left [redacted] on 3/19/63; CIA was provided a report of interview
Block, Morris E. Mollie	7/59 Mollie	6/64	8/20/57 on 8/20/57 FBI doc. to CIA	1) Report of seaman source who talked with them in Moscow in 4/64; 2) No Record of CIA contact after their arrival; 3) 4 FBI reports on Blocks following their return to U.S.

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Name	Defection	Ret. to U.S.	24-Opening	Debriefing
Duthazing, Joseph	8/60 (minister) Source/who met w/ him in Moscow.	11/30/63 - R.O.A. as reported by Sov. Govt. to Am. Ent.	12/21/60 on CI/SIG as source doc.	12/21/60 CIA intel- ligence Report from
Petrulli, Nicholas	Entered USSR - 8/10/59 Decided to remain there - 8/13/59 Rec. U.S. cit. - 9/2/59	9/22/59	10/1/64 on 1/21/64 FBI doc.	No record
Amson, Irving	Lived in USSR 1933- 1962	9/26/62	9/1/64 on 2/23/64 FBI doc.	Interviewed Debriefed on 9/3/64
Davis, Bruce	8/19/60 - defected from U.S. Army in E. He is asked for anything in USSR	Left USSR for W. H. in 7/63	12/21/60 by A.E. on CI/SIG as source doc.	Debriefed by AOD in Kiev on 8/17/63 by 66th MID.
Halperin, Maurice Hymen Edith Krueh	1953 - defected to Mexico 12/58 - moved to USSR in 10/62	Left USSR for Cuba in 10/62	9/3/57 9/24/56	[Telephonic surveillance] 1957-8 Mail interception No Record of debriefing
Martin, Nn. Hamilton	Disappeared 6/24/60 8/6/60 while - believed to have gone behind iron curtain	—	8/3/60	—
Hibster, Robert Edward	Oct 17-19, 1959	@ 6/62	@ 10/20/59	Yes

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• Louis Henry Jones 325363

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Personal: File Action Reg.

Date: 5/25/62 From: Anita Potocki for TFW/CI

Source Doc: DBF-40969 9/29/61

Action Desk: Cuba

Comments: Suspect Cuban agent

Traveled from A² → M.C. → Havana in April 1961 at invitation
Castro govt. of Cuba

Everything else in file is 3rd agency - all FBI (Field File # 105-42974) (Bur. File 105-98177)
1st FBI doc. is 8/28/61; next one is 9/21/61; then 6/11/62

As per machine listing, he defected to Cuba in 1961.

Was in Moscow in 1963, possibly on business for Cubans

Ret. to U.S. ^{Aug. 25,} 1966

No appearance of direct debriefing by FBI or anyone - info. comes from
other sources.

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Shredlinger, Martin - 734499

Personality File Action Request

Date: 9/1/63

From



CI/SP

Action Desk: CI/SP

Comments: Now living in Moscow. Married to Elena Ivanovna Pyatnitskaya

Source Doc.: None

12/5/66 MFR ; RE: "Am. Defectors to the USSR"

Att.: Info re Shredlinger from: 1) 8/7/61 FBI Report

2) pre-11/60 [AFFAIRWAY] (SR/10)

Chronology: References in chronology to Embata, 201 & CI/SIG

8/8/69 MFR by H. Sandel re: G's impending arrival to conf. in U.S. in 1969 -
no ops. interest

Chron. indicates: G went to USSR in 1957; marr. there in 1958

Ret. to U.S. alone 7/23/59

Ret. to USSR 12/60

No indication of CIA debriefing ^{while} in U.S.

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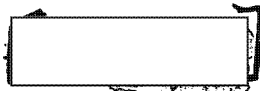
Meys, Karl Henry 857071

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201 Pers. File Act. Reg.

Date: 9/4/69

From:



Office: CI/KIA

Source Doc.: DBB-39905 2/25/66

Comments: Conscientious Objector - Visited Saigon in '66 on pacifist mission

3rd Agency Docs: 2 FBI Reports from 1966

Block, Mollie 761424

Pers. File Act. Reg.

Date: ^{None}
~~3/28/62~~

From: A. Egerton

Source Doc: DCA 5374 3/28/62

Action Desk: CI/SIG

Comments: Appl. to Am. Emb. Moscow for visa for ret. to U.S. for herself, husband & daughter in 3/62

(Ass than)
Docs. same as in 201-194231

Martinkus, Anthony Vitas 809022

201 Pers. File Act. Reg.

Date: 12/12/66

From: RIO/201/CON

Office: CI/RA 2

Source Doc.: None

Comments: Sov. authorities refused to accept exist. visa appl. to USSR

Rep. from Mos. Reported 486 - 11/19/61 states Sov. refused to accept exist. visa -
consider him to be stateless
3rd agency - looks like 1 doc.

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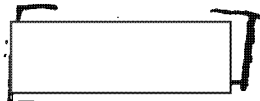
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Gold, Robert

201 Pers. File Action Reg.

Date: 9/14/68

From:



CI/KA

Source Doc.: DBC - 24928 8/2/68

Comments: Resided USSR 1961. Contacted Sov. Emb. 9-10/67.

Last add. Grand Wells Hotel Chicago Sep. 3/68 Present location unknown

Country of location: USA Act. Desk: C²/NA Sec. Desk: SB/CA

3rd Agency Doc.: Not indicated as to contents.

Parker, Jas. Dudley 287270

Pers. File Act. Reg.

Date: 11/14/60

From:



CI/SI

Source Doc.: None

Action Desk: CI/SI

Comments: None

Info. on J.D.P. (Ref. 10/60) - according to SA Ingram G-252, 10/26/60,
he traveled on plane from Brussels → USSR on 10/23/60.

11/9/60 Bio. sheet - Info. from DBF - 61279 11/60

11/11/61 Office Memo, Chief, Contact Div. OO to Chief CI Staff; Re: Possible
defection of U.S. cit. (Parker) in Moscow as related by source who was
traveling on same plane

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12/5/66 MFR re Am. Refs. in USSR

No attach. on JDP

No record of act. or of debriefing

3rd Agency - no indication of contents

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Dubinsky, Shirley

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Pers. File Act. Reg.

Date: Illegible

From: Ann Egerton CI/SIG

Source Doc: - FBI ? 11/64

Action Desk: CI/SIG

Comments: U.S. address - Miami, Fla.

Applied for passport 2/23/61; Daughter of ? Dubinsky born in 5/95 in Russia & naturalized U.S. cit. & Rose D. born in Poland

1961 - Renounced U.S. cit. & reg. USSR cit.

(all)
Rev. in Moscow Nov. or Dec. 1962

2nd No other docs other than 201 file review sheet.

3rd agency - no indication as to contents

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Hiberto Ricciardelli 289238

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Personality File Action Reg.

Date: 12/21/60 by CI/SIG Ann Egester

Source Doc: CI/SIG Action Desk: CI/ST

Comments: Residence in USA: Allham, Mass.

ex-USA F Major: WWII

Reflected to the Sov. while in USSR as tourist in July, 1959.

- Unclass. info. on K.R.: 8/3/59 Newswatch - In 1959, K.R. sold house & belongings in Fla. & said he was going to new job in Barbados - last anyone heard of him until he turned up in Moscow.
- News articles re R.
- Doc. X-ref. sheet on XAAZ-12952 dated 10/2/62 Report of Helen Howard Putridger who met R. & Davis while serving as guide w/ Medicine-USA exhibit in USSR from Mar-July 1962.

- 7/4/63 W.P. account of R family's ret. to U.S. at end of 6/63.

by W.T. Flagg, chief Intell. Officer
of info

7/2/63 Report telephonically furnished by Mrs. Chas Johnston, Regional Intell. Officer, Burlington, Vt.:

- Subj., whose rec. is much vagr., left US in 2/59 to go to USSR.

- On 6/28/63 he entered US at N.Y. w/ non quota immigrant visa -

visa petition was submitted by wife, approved in Chicago 5/23/63,

& the visa was issued on 6/14. He was traveling on Sov. passport. Wife

is US cit. & they have 3 children.

- Subj's wife now located in Boston where he's living (S lived in Moscow in 1959; in Kiev from 1959-63).

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3-11-65

R. Ricciardelli

12/5/66 MPR RE: Am. Defectors to USSR

Chon. on L.R.

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Susan Frank 191098

Vol I

Personality (201) File Request (Amend)

Date: 3/13/59

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From: RTA/201 Signed: XMA

Source Doc.: ABF-19795

Action Desk: CI/ICA

Comments: LIT: USA

In contact w/ CP members in 1958

Residence 11/58, 110 Christopher St., N.Y.C.

Pers. (201) File Reg. (Open)

Date: 8/9/57

From

Source Doc.: DFB 87904

Action Desk: CI

Pers. (201) File Reg. (Amend)

Date: 9/29/59

From: RTA/201 Signed: R. Seale

Source Doc.: DBF-33269

Action Desk: CI/ICA Sub County Int.: UK

Comments: LIT: USA Husband: FRANK, Richard Cyril

Passport # 42431 Renewed 8/58 Would't answer ?'s relating to past or present membership in CP. Subj. has been member of CP(NY) but denies being one now because of husband's position w/ CBS-TV program "Conquest".

Comm. Party member, suspect.

201 Pers. File Reg. (Amend)

Dated: 4/10/68

From: Richard Olin

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No Source Doc.

Action Desk: CI/DP/AD

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Frank (cont.)

12/30/59 Dispatch [] to Chief FE: RE: Report that Frank is in Bern 12/10/59 → 10/12/59, left for Zurich, where inquired for flight to Prague. Also had contact [] in Bern.

2/2/60 Memo, DDP to Dir., FBI; RE: Frank - often person desiring to go to Comm. China from Switz. go thru Prague

No info. in this file indicates that they ever went to China or USSR

Machine listing indicates that SH6 lived in Peking ca 12/59 - 5/61.

- Was in USSR ca 1961 en route to U.S.

- Ret. to US @ 6/61.

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3/16/78

Pittman, John Owen 843597

SECRET 3111128

201 Personality File Action Request

Date: 12/10/68

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From: Richard Ober CI/50

Re: opened to: A.B.C. - 31724 10/10/68 FBI Report

Machine printout indicates Subj. ^{arrived} ~~departed~~ Moscow 10/6/59; departed ca 8/62
to U.S. - San Francisco

^{also}
File contains:

8/23/69 Daily World article

9/23/69 " " article

Card on TOP indicates he visited N. Korea in 1969

FBI's News Service printout - Korean trip 1969

No debriefing by CIA.

All 3rd agency does. all FBI reports

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Henry Winston

006887

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201 Personality File Action Request

Date: None

From: Richard Ober: JK LTDP/RO

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Comments: Delete Comments

Doesn't give doc. on which file was opened

File indicates (in 10/16/65 Message, Dir. to ~~Santiago~~^{in 1949}) that 1 suby. was convicted & sentenced to 5-yr. term for conspiring to advocate overthrow of U.S. govt. Not apprehended until 1956 when imprisoned w/ add'l. 3 yr. sentence. Reld. 1961.

Traveled to S.U. 9/61 as CPUSA delegate to 22 Congress CPUSA. Ret. USA 2/64. Long history as Communist (since 1931).

File probably opened by early 50's.

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