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31 October 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Security Research Staff

FROM : M. D. Stevens

SUBJECT : American Defectors

Reference is made to a verbal request to you from the DC/OS for information regarding any American citizens who have defected to the USSR, Red China, or other Satellite-countries during the past eighteen months—other than Bernon F. MITCHELL and William H. MARTIN, and five other defectors regarding whom Mr. OTEPKA of the State Department Security Office already has information (i. e. Robert Edward WEBSTER, EE-18854; Lee Harvey OSWALD, MS-11164; Libero NICCIARDELLI, MS-8295; Vladimir SLOBODA, MS-10565; and Joseph DUTKANICZ, MS-10724).

Security files reflect that the subjects of the attached memoranda are additional American citizens who have defected to the Soviets or their Satellites during the past eighteen months.

Several of the above referred to defectors have been of interest to CIA:

Herbert Lee NORTHROP, 48923, was a staff employee of this Agency from May 1951 to May 1953. A more detailed summary than that included in the attached group has been prepared on him.

Robert Edward WEBSTER, EE-18852, and Nicholas PETRULLI, EE-19439, were subject of OO/C requests on 29 May 1959 and 15 June 1959, respectively, with a view to their being debriefed upon their returns from visits to Russia. Neither was interviewed by CIA, either before or after their visits.

With reference to Nicholas PETRULLI, it is noted that his cousin, Michael Thomas SCHIRALLI, SSD 84258, is a former CIA covert employee, who was assigned to [redacted] FJ-HOPEFUL and also took part in PBSUCCESS. As of July 1954 he was to be debriefed as he chose to return to private employment. SCHIRALLI advised during an IRD interview in May 1953

SCHIRALLI was born and raised on Long Island; and subsequently was employed in various places on Long Island. From February to April 1950, he was employed by a TV firm in Valley Stream, Long Island; [redacted] at the time of his interview. PETRULLI was employed as a sheet metal worker in Valley Stream,

at the time he left the U. S. for Russia in 1959; and his five brothers live on Long Island.

Vladimir ELOBODA is currently of interest to Security in view of his assignment (prior to his defection to the Soviet Union, via East Germany, on 3 August 1960) to the 513th Military Intelligence Group in Frankfurt, Germany, (EGIS Center). Here he had contact with at least one representative of CIA and was in a position to have learned the identities of CIA personnel at the EGIS Center.

William A. MORGAN has been of interest to Security in that on 27 March 1959, CI/OA requested a check on him, in connection with his contemplated use by the Cuban Desk/WH for purposes of contact and debriefing. However, WH cancelled its request as of 5 May 1959.

Edward NIXON, on 6 September 1960, approached a CIA agent in Freddy's Bar in Damascus and engaged him in conversation, following which our agent found himself under surveillance. The surveillance continued for two days, after which our agent was approached in Freddy's Bar by an unknown G-2 officer who asked him about NIXON; and thereafter the surveillance ceased. (The owner of Freddy's Bar had reported NIXON to G-2, as he said he was ruining his business.)

While defectors to Cuba and the UAR may not technically be defectors to Soviet Satellite countries, it seems a close thing, and the names of such known defectors in the past eighteen months have been included in this memorandum.

M. D. Stevens

OC/SES:MDS:djc