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Chief, IS

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Chief, SR; Chief of Station, [Redacted]

JUN 4 1961

Chief of Station, [Redacted]

14-6

DEC. MICROFILM

September 1961

RAMSEY's Meeting with KANTIR on 29 August 1961

INDEXING CAN BE ACCURATE BY QUALIFIED HD DESK OPERATOR

19-6

[Redacted] 1537 dated 14 August 1961

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1. Attached herewith is Arthur J. RAMSEY's contact report of a meeting with KANTIR on 29 August 1961. The purpose of this contact was to determine KANTIR's current relationship with the RIS, ascertain his future plans, and debrief him about his friend William Steinsmith, an American who lives in Copenhagen illegally, and who has written several pro-Castro articles for local newspapers. He is also known to maintain a contact since February 1961 with the local Cuban legation officer Gabriel Califora.

2. We have asked A SOURCE TO DETERMINE Steinsmith, determine the reason for his living here illegally (without residence permit) and obtain as much additional data as possible about his source of income, activities, and contacts here.

3. We will keep Headquarters advised of future developments. This case has been discussed with THE FBI representative from London, who suggested that Headquarters coordinate this case with THE FBI in Washington.

4. Forwarded under separate cover are copies of KANTIR's consular file including documents concerning his newly acquired wife.

Attachments:

- A. Contact Report, h/w
- B. Copies of Consular file on KANTIR u/s/o SK at [Redacted] 12 Sept 61

Distributions:

- 2 - WS w/atts A; B, u/s/o
 - 2 - SR w/att A.
 - 2 - COS, [Redacted] w/att A.
- (14-3)

CS COPY

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ATTN: J. A. ...

MICROFILMED
JUN 4 1962
DOC. MICRO. SER.

29 August 1961

4P

SUBJECT: Contact with KAWIR 29 August 1961

1. After several abortive attempts to locate and contact KAWIR on 20 August, it was finally established that, since his return from Yugoslavia he has been residing at the home of his parents-in-law, at address: c/o ... This will be his address until his departure from Copenhagen, which will take place on 7 September. KAWIR was contacted first by telephone in the morning hours of 29 August and then invited to come to a meeting at the Royal Hotel. The meeting took place at 10:0 and lasted until 12:30 hrs.

2. Personal matters

a) KAWIR traveled in Yugoslavia from 1 - 24 July (or about 3 weeks of that time). His wife accompanied him on this trip and apparently contributed the major share of their travel expenses.

b) After his return from Yugoslavia KAWIR married his present wife. As a wedding gift, his father sent him \$ 500.00, from which amount KAWIR paid \$ 400.00 for their passage to the USA, the rest went on living expenses and to buy presents. His father sent also an affidavit for KAWIR's wife, so that both can now travel together. They will leave Copenhagen on the "Stavangerfjord" on 2 September, traveling by tourist class.

c) In the beginning the couple will reside with KAWIR's parents (KAWIR himself will try to enroll at Copenhagen as planned, though he is still not certain that he will be able to finance his studies. He has not yet received any fellowships or grants and will probably have to rely on the support by his parents, at least for the initial period. Since he has been a son-in-law, he has been able to earn only ca. \$ 200 by compiling a Russian word list for the "Intermethodens Institut" which plans to publish a Russian word count for a condensed language course. As to the reported purchase of furniture, KAWIR stated that they actually placed only an order for Russian furniture with the firm "Illus. Bolshakov" in the amount of \$ 2000 - 2500, but did not pay any money down. If they can afford it, they will write from the States and ask the firm to send the furniture in smaller lots. The order is not really binding and if they cannot afford the deal, they will cancel it.

3. Contact with Soviets

KAWIR stated that since he had visited the Soviet Embassy on our instructions on 17 April, he had no further contacts with the Soviets and had not seen any officials or any Soviet consuls. No attempts have been made by the Soviets to contact him in any way, either.

4. Miscellaneous

On 21 August, in the course of the conversation KAWIR told that he had been on his way to a residence ...

ENCLOSURE 22

OS ...

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The interest in STEINERTH was expressed by our desire to find out why an American citizen resided in Norway illegally. After the informant KAWNER was told that he should not reveal our interest in STEINERTH TO ANYONE, and he promised to do so.

b) According to KAWNER, William STEINERTH, age 27-28, is a native of New York. His parents reside in Bronx, but their address is not known to KAWNER. He believes that the name is fairly rare and that it should be easy to trace their residence through the Bronx telephone directory. As much as KAWNER knows, STEINERTH studied in New York (possibly at the City College) and in California (possibly at the UCLA). His major was mathematics. STEINERTH is a free-lance journalist and lives or lives from the money or earnings of his journalistic work. TO KAWNER'S limited best knowledge and belief, STEINERTH has no other source of income.

c) At the present time, STEINERTH lives with his girl-friend, Tulla STEINERTH, at Barnevej 2. He is definitely not registered there. STEINERTH came to Copenhagen some 6-7 months ago. Before that time he lived in Trondheim, Norway, he had a 1-year residence permit for Norway. As far as KAWNER knows, STEINERTH has a residence in Scandinavian countries in due to his desire to be with his girl-friend. The latter is of Norwegian descent, but lives a longer time in the US, where she married (first name unknown, possibly a Czech, from whom she separated (but whom she did not formally divorce). She has a daughter, 10 years old, from that marriage, who is with her mother. KAWNER does not know anything about STEINERTH, except that he is an American citizen. Tulla STEINERTH moved from Norway to Copenhagen, allegedly to study clothes design, but at the present time she has no money to attend any school or courses. In general, the couple lives from hand to mouth. At one time during the last winter, when they passed through a particular hard period, they stayed with KAWNER.

d) KAWNER met STEINERTH in winter 1960/61 and has been seeing him fairly frequently since spring 1961. KAWNER did not provide a clear picture of how he met STEINERTH, but in the beginning it seems to have been a casual acquaintance through "a friend of a friend of a friend". In spring 1961 KAWNER translated one of STEINERTH's articles on Cuba from English into Danish as a literary exercise. As a result of this work, they got to know each other more closely, but while they can be said to know each other well, KAWNER does not consider STEINERTH a really close friend. In general, STEINERTH is a quiet and reserved person. KAWNER characterized him as extremely well-read, interested in politics and economics, politically "left of the center". The articles of which KAWNER knows dealt with Cuba, the African question, the USSR (STEINERTH expressed an anti-Soviet view), and, more recently, with Algeria. The article on Cuba was published in the Danish journal "Udsigten" (other articles were published in "Aktuel" and "Information"). STEINERTH writes only in English. He does not know any foreign languages well and has written a number of Danish and Norwegian articles.

KAWNER was asked to tell any details about STEINERTH's background. He knows only that prior to his coming to Norway, STEINERTH worked in New York as a sort of clerk or typographer for the American Consulate.

tion. *KAWER* believes that *STEINSTEIN* has not traveled extensively and is possibly limited only to Mexico (when he studied in California) and Norway and Denmark.

KAWER knows *STEINSTEIN* only under this name and has never known directly or indirectly that *STEINSTEIN* could have used another name. He has seen an article written by *STEINSTEIN*, which was signed by "STEINSTEIN", but that seems to be only a spelling variation of the same name.

2) In connection with *STEINSTEIN*'s article on Cuba, *STEINSTEIN* visited the Cuban Legation. In this matter he met and got acquainted with the Cuban Charge d'Affaires, Gabriel CALICOLA, a very "intelligent and brilliant young man"; he is a very good linguist and knows English, French, Chinese, possibly some Japanese. *KAWER* himself was introduced to CALICOLA and has met him at least 3-5 times. Initially, CALICOLA and *KAWER* even planned to exchange some language lessons, but after two lessons their efforts petered out. CALICOLA, according to *KAWER*, is a 100% "Stalinist", strongly anti-American, but has some reservations concerning the Russians and Communism, at least in his utterances towards *KAWER*. The nature of contacts between CALICOLA and *STEINSTEIN* is not really known to *KAWER*. He does not believe that *STEINSTEIN*, who *KAWER* judges as a rather independent person, performs any particular services for CALICOLA and doubts very much that *STEINSTEIN* gets any money from CALICOLA. As stated before, *STEINSTEIN*'s material situation is very poor. The only material guarantee he has is an assurance from his parents that they will pay his passage back to the United States.

KAWER stated that *STEINSTEIN* plans to return to the United States within 1-2 months. He will probably go to New York.

3) According to *KAWER* who is aware of the fact that *STEINSTEIN* resides in Denmark without a residence permit, the only known reason for *STEINSTEIN*'s coming first to Norway and then to Denmark was his desire to be with his girl friend (Tulla ZEMANOVIC). At one point, *STEINSTEIN* told *KAWER* that since he was planning to go back to the United States pretty soon, it did not really matter whether he had or had not a residence permit. In short, vis-a-vis *KAWER* *STEINSTEIN* represented his illegal residence as a case of personal negligence and indifference and as purely connected with personal reasons.

4) Summarizing the somewhat impressionistic data on *STEINSTEIN*, *KAWER* stated that he considers for him to be "quite progressive", but not necessarily Communist. On the other hand, *STEINSTEIN* is not a type to have his soul easily and though *KAWER* has been knowing him for quite some time, he cannot make the effort to know him well. However, *KAWER* does not believe that *STEINSTEIN* is on any one's pay roll.

5. General Remarks

a) *KAWER* discussed *STEINSTEIN* fairly frankly and without any visible mental reservations, but he obviously did not provide a complete

picture of the man and their relationship. In all fairness to *KANTOR* he is not a good reporter in general, is not a very keen observer, and is not always able to concentrate on the topic at hand. But from the tenor of the interview and *KANTOR*'s total lack of any serious or relevant questions, it seems reasonable to assume that the questioning concerning *SEYMOUR* did not bother him personally. He does not seem to have any guilt feelings concerning his relationship with *SEYMOUR* and it is very unlikely that the latter has been cultivating *KANTOR* on behalf of the FBI, if it is assumed that *SEYMOUR* has no contacts.

b) *KANTOR*'s financial status has not been clarified completely, but the gift of \$10,000 from his father in connection with *KANTOR*'s wedding and increasing demerit from Newark does not seem to be unusual. In *KANTOR*'s description of his father's business, the latter has a small enterprise and is certainly not a wealthy man, but he has some modest means and savings.

6. Final instructions:

a) *KANTOR* asked for instructions for the event of a contact by the Soviets and was told that if such contacts and attempts of contacts should occur in the United States, he would have to contact the FBI immediately.

Arthur J. Ramey

Special