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3 November 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. James H. Hunt, Jr.,
Deputy Chief, CI Staff

SUBJECT: Michael C. SUMAN (201-308566)
Mutual Contact of William Hamilton MARTIN
and of AEMUSICAL

REFERENCE: Your Memorandum dated 13 October 1961
re: "The M & M Case"

1. Thank you very much for your memorandum of 13 October, referenced above, and for the enclosed contact report, including AEMUSICAL's report on the information he acquired from Subject concerning the latter's interview by ONI and contact with William Hamilton MARTIN. Neither the biographic data on SUMAN contained therein, nor his close association with both MARTIN and Bernice Ferguson MITCHELL were known to us hitherto. Neither were we aware of his apparently extensive correspondence with MARTIN. It has not been possible to date to verify through special sources whether Subject's correspondence with MARTIN continued after MARTIN's disappearance from the United States. We have not as yet received the latest NSA report of investigation, which would include the ONI report of interview of Subject, since this document apparently has been delayed in publication and transmittal. However, we have been advised that the document in question should be available in approximately one week to ten days, at which time we shall provide you with the ONI report of their interview of Subject.

2. In reply to the query outlined in paragraph 3 of your memorandum, we see little point in attempting to discourage AEMUSICAL from passing this information to the Soviets, both on basis of his past performance in reporting, and because the KGB undoubtedly already is aware of SUMAN's relationship to MARTIN, MITCHELL and AEMUSICAL. As a consequence, it would not appear necessary to request ONI to clear this information for passage to the Soviets by AEMUSICAL, particularly since it must be assumed that the KGB is monitoring all mail sent and received in the USSR by MARTIN and MITCHELL. In order to simplify the handling of this information both within this Agency and the customer agencies involved, it is suggested that a straight CSCI

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dissemination of the information obtained by the agent from Subject be prepared by WE/1 for ONI, with copies to NSA, the FBI and this office, such dissemination to be coordinated with Chief, FI/D, prior to release by the CI Staff. Such handling, we believe, will enable WE/1 to provide the appropriate source description and references to earlier correspondence with ONI on this case, in such manner as to permit ready internal ONI coordination in this matter, and to protect the identity of the agent as well as to joint operational equities of both the FBI and this Agency in this case. Mr. Ludlum of your staff, who is familiar to some extent with the TIDRAMA/AEMUSICAL case, has indicated that this method of handling the information will simplify any further coordination with the Navy on matters with which he is concerned.

3. For your convenience we are forwarding for your information as Enclosure A, herewith, a reconstructed chronological outline of the KGB knowledge of the relationship between AEMUSICAL - Subject - MARTIN and MITCHELL. Enclosure A is based upon information contained in those documents on the case, which were made physically available to this office for review through the efforts of Mr. Hal Granquist, WE/MCE, who holds the actual 201 file on this case, including all operational reporting beginning with January 1961. Our review, therefore, was limited to the three-volume TIDRAMA Operational Files, covering the period 1957 through December 1960, which files were found in the custody of Mrs. Gertrude Wecker of SR/CI/RED. Mr. Granquist advised that it would not be possible for us to have a similar lean of the material since December 1960, for reasons outlined in his note, which is included in Enclosure B. However, Mr. Granquist volunteered to review the entire 201 file in our behalf, and to extract the pertinent information on SUJIAN from said file, and to forward such information to this office. To date, such review has produced only one such extract, copy of which is attached as Enclosure B.

4. Your particular attention is invited to the fact that review of the TIDRAMA Operational Files revealed that the bulk of the reporting on this case, including the identities of TIDRAMA-1/AEMUSICAL's personal acquaintances, contacts, and operational reporting targets on whom he has passed information to the KGB, have never been indexed into RID indices, and therefore are not reflected in a name check submitted by other desks or divisions to the Central RID/Index Section. As a consequence such name check will not in any manner reflect to the requestor that there is any information on such individual held in WE/1, even though extensive information may be available, and even indexed in WE/1 card files. This volume of unindexed reporting includes internal CIA communications between Headquarters and Field stations, as well as reports to and from the FBI and other U. S. Agencies, some of which include extensive background data on certain of the agent's.

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contacts. The failure of WE/1 to provide for RYBAT carding of the identities mentioned in the AEMUSICAL reports, for which there is ample provision under CSN-43-33, dated 11 May 1959, has resulted in the dispatch in Subject's case, of an official Agency memorandum dated 2 November 1960, addressed to the National Security Agency and the FBI, advising that CIA indices contained no references identifiable with Michael C. SUMAN of Sierra-Madre, California, who was a listed reference of William Hamilton MARTIN. For your convenience a copy of this memorandum is attached as Enclosure C. Undoubtedly a copy of the memorandum itself, or of the information relayed therein was made available to ONI by NSA prior to actual ONI contact and interview of SUMAN. As a result of our receipt of the information forwarded with your referenced memorandum, a physical recheck was conducted on 19 October 1961 of all RID/Index cards on file in Central RID/Index in the surname of SUMAN. This exercise revealed that as of that date there were absolutely no cards filed under the name of Michael C. SUMAN as of that date. This check was made prior to our contacting of Mr. Granquist later that day or shortly thereafter, with regard to possible prior reporting on SUMAN, which may have been provided by the agent in advance of the latest report. Mr. Granquist readily admitted that there had been some previous reporting, but stated that none of these references had been indexed in or for RID/Index, since he doesn't believe in indexing every name that appears in operational reporting as a contact of the agent, that is "unless we have some operational interest in such person, and heretofore we have never had any such interest in SUMAN." He also indicated that SUMAN's name had been passed to the KGB by AEMUSICAL "some time ago, probably around the turn of the year," but was not able to come up immediately with a specific date or reference in which details of this report to the KGB was recorded. He also indicated that despite passage some time ago (actually about 18 months prior to the report forwarded with reference) by AEMUSICAL of Michael C. SUMAN's name to the KGB as an individual with whom the agent maintained personal contact, he did not feel that this fact, per se, transformed SUMAN into the category of persons "of operational interest to us." When queried for further details on such reporting, Granquist indicated "that he thought he knew just about where these reports were located in the file," and volunteered to extract the pertinent information and forward same to this office. However, he indicated that he did not believe he would be able to let us borrow the actual 201 file, which is on permanent charge to WE/1, and to permit us further detailed study of the material therein, since the files were in constant use at the desk. However, he went on to state that he would be perfectly willing to let us borrow the earlier TIDRAMA files held by Mrs. Wecker, if we preferred to conduct such review ourselves, rather than relying upon his review and extracting of pertinent

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materials from these files. This offer was accepted, and Mrs. Potocki subsequently borrowed the files held by Mrs. Wecker; the results of this check revealed the details of AEMUSICAL's reporting on his contacts with SUMAN, insofar as such details are reflected in the TIDRAMA operational files, and are summarized in Enclosure A.

5. It is obvious from even a relatively superficial review of these materials, that AEMUSICAL has never been questioned in detail by his CIA case officers on his relationship with or to SUMAN and a number of other individuals, whose names appear throughout this correspondence. Neither does he appear to have been debriefed in depth on the substance of the information he passed to the Soviets on such persons during the individual meetings he had with the KGB, much less regarding the reaction of the KGB handler to any of the names, or the follow-up queries put to him by the Soviet Case Officer orally during the course of any particular meeting when such information was passed. This statement, of course, is based upon the operational reporting prepared by the [redacted] and is obviously subject to possible correction in the event such details are covered in the individual contact reports prepared after each meeting by the CIA handler, such reports not having been scanned or read in the course of this review. Unless such details do appear in the contact reports, it would appear that source has withheld much of the detail of his conversations with his Soviet handler, either on a witting basis the motivation for which must be established, or unwittingly, possibly because he was not asked for these details. Under the circumstances, you may wish to consider undertaking a thorough CM review of the entire AEMUSICAL case, in order that a detailed debriefing of the agent may be undertaken upon his return to the United States, and prior to his re-transfer to the control of the FBI. We note that despite indications to the field that the desk was preparing traces on AEMUSICAL's multitudinous contacts, the files reviewed reflect the results of such tracing efforts on only a small proportion of the agent's associates and contacts.

6. It is requested that the writer be kept advised of any further action contemplated in this case, as well as of any further information developed about source's contact with SUMAN or any other persons figuring in the ZRGRACE case.

WILLIAM K. HARVEY
Chief, FI/Division D

Enclosures:

A, B, C, D, E, F, and G

1 w/enc. - 201-282338
1 w/enc. - 201-308566

FI/D/APotocki:mem

Orig. & 1 w/enc. - addressee

1 w/enc. - OS/SRS

1 w/enc. - 100-6-124/3

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ENCLOSURE A

Reconstructed Chronology of KGB Knowledge of Michael C. SUMAN's
Connection with AEMUSICAL and with ZERGRACE Principals

1. Per CSCI-3/760, 672, dated 12 July 1960, addressed to the FBI, on page 11 there is mentioned a "general questioning by SLABOV of AEMUSICAL with regard to his contacts in the U.S. during the meeting between SLABOV and AEMUSICAL on 15 May 1959. It must be presumed that SUMAN's name likely came up at this time, in light of information developed at a later date showing SUMAN to have been the person who exerted the most influence over AEMUSICAL in his youth, according to AEMUSICAL's own admission.

2. At the 16 July 1959 meeting with SLABOV, his KGB handler, AEMUSICAL was instructed by SLABOV to prepare and submit to SLABOV at the next meeting a "very complete life history" of himself. (cf para. 9, [redacted] 8812, dtd 24 July 1959) According to the same reference, the CIA Case Officer, Timothy F. Noggle met with AEMUSICAL on 17 July, at which time he obtained the above info, and in para 17 the CIA handler states:

"17. We gave T/1 the green light on his life history telling him to furnish a complete and truthful report to TIDRAMA/3. The portent of T/3's 'high-level' scheme for T/1 is hard to deduce and harder yet to accept at face value. For the time being it seems best to maintain our wait-and-see policy, particularly because the Soviet trip should produce a firm decision on the Soviet side as to whether or not T/1 is worth all this bother...."

Since the next AEMUSICAL (then still TIDRAMA/1) contact with the KGB was scheduled for 3 August 1959, to be followed by a meeting with Noggle on 6 August, it must be presumed that at least at this time AEMUSICAL's close friendship and continuing contact with Michael C. SUMAN was brought to the attention of the KGB. However, it is noteworthy that throughout the operation, there is very little detailed reporting from the field on the exact details of what AEMUSICAL told the KGB handler at each meeting regarding each of his personal contacts. Subject's case is a perfect example. Actually there is no detailed record of exactly when or what AEMUSICAL told the KGB about his friendship with Subject, other than the items contained in this chronology. Neither does there appear to be any reporting of the depth to which KGB representatives probed into this relationship, the reaction shown by the KGB handler when AEMUSICAL first indicated he

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was a friend of SUMAN's, etc. Since AEMUSICAL (then TIDRAMA) actually was in contact with the KGB Resident in Stockholm, Ivan BORISOV in 1957 prior to his contact with KUBARK through the local ODACID installation, there always remains the possibility that SUMAN may in some yet unexplained manner have played some role in BORISOV's contact with AEMUSICAL of which source either is witting but to which he does not admit, or of which the agent is entirely unwitting.

3. CSCI-3/756, 896 addressed to the FBI under date of 9 October 1959, page 5, para 5, indicates that TIDRAMA did in fact provide SLABOV with the requested detailed personal biographic history statement, such information presumably having been passed, as planned, on 3 August 1959. If SUMAN's name had not previously come up in the oral questioning of AEMUSICAL referred to in para 1, above, it surely must have come out on this occasion.

4. Inasmuch as SLABOV requested AEMUSICAL to provide him with an address at which he could be reached while in the U.S. in the fall of 1959, although the record indicates merely that he thereupon supplied SLABOV with his mother's address in California, in view of the information reported to his headquarters handlers in October 1959 prior to leaving Washington, it must be presumed that AEMUSICAL also provided SUMAN's name and address to the KGB, as one of the persons he planned to contact and visit with while in the U.S.

5. WE/1 and the FBI were aware, in advance, of TIDRAMA's plans to contact SUMAN while on the West Coast during the period 27 October through 5 November 1959, according to the original plans, as indicated in attached memorandum dated 29 October 1959, addressed by WE/1 to Mr. Miler of CI/Ops/Sovsat. (Encl. D) The original of this document was found interfiled in the TIDRAMA Operational Files held by SR/CI/RED.

6. Following TIDRAMA's return from above referenced West Coast trip in October-November 1959, during which time he was attempting to obtain certain classified information from his California contacts in order to comply with the KGB requirements given him by SLABOV before he left Stockholm, TIDRAMA was again debriefed and briefed by the headquarters case officers of WE/1, with report of his U.S. trip forwarded to the field as [redacted]-6379, under date of 13 November 1959. Apparently this pouch was not coordinated with Mr. Miler, and it is apparent that no copies of the complete pouch were provided to him following dispatch to the field, in light of various memoranda referring to OSSW-6379, all of which are addressed to CI/Ops Sovsat and begin with a memo dated 9 August 1960 concerning SUMAN. Copies of these

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memos are attached for your convenience as Enclosures E and F. Contrary to the impression conveyed in Amidon's memorandum of 9 August 1960, a closer reading of [] 6379 reveals that his visit with SUMAN occupied the entire period of his stay in California, i. e. from 27 October through 8 November 1959, to the exclusion even of visiting the Inyokern Naval Station where Source's mother was employed, and concerning which he held certain ZEI's from the Soviet case officer. Under the circumstances, his contact with SUMAN cannot be dismissed as lightly as Amidon's memo might indicate, and it is very doubtful that TIDRAMA would have been able to get off with as superficial a report to his KGB handler as he appears to have done with respect to the WE/I case officers responsible for his handling at the time.

7. As Enclosure G, please find a copy of the report TIDRAMA prepared on his contacts in California, which was prepared by the Desk and passed to Mr. [] for clearance by appropriate U.S. Agencies for passage. This memorandum was made available to this office by Mr. [] during the week of 30 October 1961. The memorandum itself is dated 17 November 1959, and according to Mr. [] notation was shown to the FBI on that date, and subsequently returned on 3 December 1959. Please note SUMAN's name is included.

8. According to Mr. Granquist's memo to Mrs. Potocki, (cf. Encl. B) there allegedly is no further mention of SUMAN in the TIDRAMA/AEMUSICAL file other than that forwarded by Granquist with his note, and the report forwarded to us with referenced memorandum.

9. Following disappearance from the United States of MARTIN and MITCHELL in July 1960, and after initial request for assistance from this Agency, NSA made available in early August 1960 photocopies of the PHS forms completed by MARTIN and MITCHELL for employment with NSA, such forms being dated 11 July 1957, three days after they reported for duty at Fort Meade. Examination of MARTIN's employment application revealed that he had listed Michael C. SUMAN of Sierra Madre, California, as a personal reference in one case, and as a credit reference in another place, indicating that he had known him for a period of four years, i. e. since 1953. However, inasmuch as there was no indication that SUMAN had been connected in any way with MARTIN's military service in Japan, it was assumed that SUMAN was a casual acquaintance and not an intimate friend.

10. Subsequent mention of SUMAN in NSA reports dated 11 September 1961 and 1 March 1961 repeat information reported in para 9 above, and reflect that SUMAN's name was checked through the HCUA indices on

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4 October 1960 by NSA investigators with negative results. We have as yet not received the next consolidated NSA report of investigation, which may contain the results of the ONI interview of SUMAN, which is mentioned in enclosure to your memorandum of 13 October 1961.

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