

DISPATCH	CLASSIFICATION	PROCESSING	
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FROM	Chief, SR via Chief, WE	ONLY QUALIFIED HEADQUARTERS DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING	
SUBJECT	HEDWOOD/AEROSOL/MIC/ABCASSOYAN/29	ABSTRACT	
ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES		MICROFILM	

REFERENCES: A. OIRA-17963, 14 December 1962
 B. OIRA-18011, 14 December 1962
 C. BIR-08765

ACTION : A. Cabled Station Comment
 B. Station Plans re Soviet Students, paragraph 6 below

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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
 VAZIMAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
 DATE 2007

SUMMARY

1. Based on References A and B, and after fairly exhaustive conversations with ABCASSOYAN/29, we agree that extension of Subject's tenure at Brussels could be a worthwhile matter. His personal situation, however, is such that to our mind it is unsolvable for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, we feel strongly that ABCASSOYAN/29 should not be reassigned to Belgium at this time. Of the main activities in which he was involved, we would recommend that the Station attempt to take over the contact with the Soviet students studying in your area; the other aspects of his work can continue on their own steam until either ABCASSOYAN/29 is able to solve his problems (which we feel unlikely) or until we are able to spot and train an appropriate individual who could continue Subject's work.

PROBLEMS

2. In conversations with ABCASSOYAN/29 and ABCASSOYAN/2, both agreed to all the requirements in Reference C except that ABCASSOYAN/29 requested (with ABCASSOYAN/2's concurrence) that he not be sent back to Brussels until about July of this year rather than March as we had initially intended. Deeper probing into this facet revealed that ABCASSOYAN/29 is very much concerned with his son's various emotional problems. Obviously any child would be negatively affected by a broken home but ABCASSOYAN/29's six year old son is apparently affected even to a greater degree since he is an extremely sensitive and emotional child. It will be recalled that his emotional problems date back some years since the boy was apparently a victim of aphasia (or at least aphasia-like symptoms) up to the age of four. He apparently did begin talking

74-124-29/3 (Continued)

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OSW-8816

HEADQUARTERS FILE NUMBER
 74-124-29/3

CLASSIFICATION
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DISPATCH

at that age and now his speech is apparently fairly good although still not completely normal. In addition to this, or possibly as a concomitant, the child is very sensitive to the point where if criticized he withdraws extensively, e.g.: if his teacher in anyway finds fault with the boy's work, the boy will suddenly decide that he really doesn't want to go to school and refuses to do so. AECASSOWARY/29 feels that much of this problem can be attributed to the fact that the boy "lacks a father" and he feels that after working with the boy for six months in extra-curricular activities he will emotionally put the boy "on the tracks" so that after the father is away for a period of two years his son will live on the memories of the father and their mutual activities and experiences during the present period of time and on the hope and anticipation of such activities in the future. Although Subject is optimistic regarding this, we definitely are not, and we feel that Subject's activities with the boy during the present period of time will not diminish the problem. This, of course, would impinge negatively on Subject if he were overseas and was worrying about the development of his son.

3. Another problem which we view here rather seriously is the fact that AECASSOWARY/29 now plans to leave his new wife here while he serves in Europe. Since AECASSOWARY/29 attributed this state of affairs to simple economics, we investigated with him and AECASSOWARY/2 the possibility and the advisability of his present wife returning with Subject to Brussels and acting as his secretary and assistnat. This problem was investigated from two points of view: does Subject really need a secretary/assistant and is his wife capable and appropriate to serve in this capacity. AECASSOWARY/29 in analysing the problem was quite definite in the belief that he could use a secretary/assistant-legman since this would enhance his efficiency and in various aspects his security also. He was, however, not at all sure that he would want his wife to serve in this capacity. His argument here was based on moral grounds: he feels that if he should get into trouble as a result of his work, this was one thing; but if his wife were in anyway attacked by the Soviets as a result of her working operationally with him, then he feels that this would be his fault and because of this he would be quite hesitant to include his wife wittingly in operational activities. AECASSOWARY/2 was also quite hesitant about the use of Subject's wife operationally. Although he did not expressly say so, it is felt that his hesitancy resulted from security considerations. This is not to say that AECASSOWARY/2 has anything on security grounds as regards AECASSOWARY/29 wife, but knowing how jealously the organization guards its operational activities, it is felt that AECASSOWARY/2's hesitation results basically from having to cut in another body into the organization's secret work. (Obviously, were the wife to be used operationally, she would have to be cut in on the sanctum sanctorum of AECASSOWARY activities and contacts.)

4. As matters now stand, AECASSOWARY/29 -- basically a newly married man-- is prepared to return to Europe in July of this year and remain there without his wife for a period of one year and a maximum of two years. With due regard to AECASSOWARY/29's personal situation, as well as the probable resulting security ramifications were he to go it alone for that period of time, we feel that such an assignment and tour would be unnatural, inappropriate, and possibly even dangerous.

5. In view of the foregoing, and weighing the operational potential against AECASSOWARY/29's future personal well-being, we feel rather strongly that he should not be considered for an overseas assignment at this time. Unfortunately, we do not presently have any other candidate who could be sent to Brussels to take over future development of the individual activities begun by AECASSOWARY/29. Further we are not overly optimistic that we will be able to find such a candidate in the immediate future. Obviously, this is a priority personnel requirement which we have laid on the AECASSOWARY organization. AECASSOWARY/2 is equally aware of the present shortcomings and is as anxious as we are to find another candidate who could be used in the same manner as AECASSOWARY/29.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ACTIONS

6. Outside of his CA work and spotting for future candidates for the AECASSOWARY organization, AECASSOWARY/29 was engaged basically in three activities: work against the Soviet students; working on the "Soviet wives" program and being used to a greater or lesser extent on CE matters in conjunction with liaison activities. Of these activities, we feel that the Soviet students,

because of the fact that they will be in Belgium for a limited period of time, should be taken over, if at all possible, by Station personnel without any reference to AECASSOWARY/29 or his organization. We further feel that direct contacting of the young French/Ukrainian who is involved in this activity could be accomplished without blowing our relationship with the AECASSOWARY organization. Your comments on this score are requested.

7. According to AECASSOWARY/29, the Soviet wives program is on the track and can be expected to develop on its own volition for some period of time. General guidance to Identity 2 of Separate Cover Attachment of Reference A should be sufficient to keep that individual interested. Should this man run across something of real and immediate interest, he could easily signal AECASSOWARY/29 here by mail. Thereafter--should this be warranted--AECASSOWARY/29 or some other individual ^{writing} in the name of the AECASSOWARY organization could contact Identity 2 and develop the operation further. In any case there is no immediacy about the Soviet wives program since these individuals and their activities will remain basically unchanged for the foreseeable future.

8. We do not know the full extent of AECASSOWARY/29's commitments by the Station to CE operations with liaison. In this area, of course, the Station will suffer a loss with Subject's not returning. Weighing, however, this factor against the general usefulness of AECASSOWARY/29 working here, we are certain that the over-all plusses to KUBARK would be with his remaining here.

CONCLUSION

9. None of the above is intended to reflect negatively in anyway on AECASSOWARY/29's ability, his work in Belgium or his overseas intelligence potential. As stated above, his personal situation is unfortunate and is such as to preclude--in our opinion--his assignment to your or any other overseas area for the foreseeable future. We feel that working here he can be operationally more useful to the over-all KUBARK effort and at the same time be able to work under circumstances more conducive to him personally. It should be understood that AECASSOWARY/29 himself does not relish the idea of going abroad and leaving his present wife and his son here; he has agreed to return merely as a result of his ideological motivation and out of a sense of duty to AECASSOWARY/2 and the latter's organization. Although such motivations are to be commended, on balance we are certain that his working here rather than going abroad will be a greater benefit to all concerned. As stated above, we recognize your Station's needs and desires and sympathize with them. It goes without saying that we will be on a look out for a replacement for AECASSOWARY/29 and will keep you informed of any progress in which we make in this direction.

10. We will inform you separately regarding the shipment of any AECASSOWARY/29 personal or operational articles and materials which he may have left in your care.

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GROUP 1
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