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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 2B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

27 February 1959
SR/3/59 Memo No. 19

MEMORANDUM FOR: SR/Logistics

SUBJECT : Request for a New Location in which to House the AERODYNAMIC
PP Cover Organization

1. The AERODYNAMIC PP cover activity, Prolog Research and Publishing Association, Inc., presently is located in Apartment 14-B, 875 West End Avenue, New York, New York. The building is located on the southwest corner of West End Avenue and 103rd Street. (Security Office No. 127425) The lease for the apartment expired on 31 January 1958 and renting has continued on a month-to-month basis; however, since ownership of the building has been changed recently, it is not known how long this arrangement can be continued. The cover organization contracted for the premises in its own name and takes care of the rental payments which amount to \$200.00 per month. Responsibility and security of the premises rests with the organization itself. There is no evidence of Agency connection as there is no classified material on the premises.

2. When first obtained, the building was located in what was considered to be a fairly desirable neighborhood. During the past year or so, however, the neighborhood has deteriorated. A great number of the neighboring apartment buildings have been converted to rooming houses and low rental apartments, the majority of which seem to be occupied by Puerto Ricans with large, noisy families, and there are more moving in continually. When the Agency Security Office performed a security investigation in early 1958, they recommended, in their report of 20 March 1958, that this site be terminated chiefly for the following two reasons. The neighborhood at that time had not reached the stage of deterioration in which it presently finds itself.

A. The wiring in the apartment utilized by the cover company did not appear sufficient to provide the electric power required by the site; and

B. Apartment 15-B in the same building was occupied by Melinda and Arthur Lester TALKINGTON known to have been active in the Communist Party from the 1930's through the late 1940's and considered probably to be active in the Party at the time of investigation.

3. The organization of the mail delivery in the building is very poor. There are no mail boxes for tenants. The mailmen either leaves all mail in the main hall where every tenant goes through the whole bunch looking for his own, or else the superintendent takes the mail to the basement where he sorts it out for the tenants. With the latter system people like TALKINGTON who go

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to the basement to pick up their own mail, have an opportunity to have a good look at the mail for Prolog Association.

4. The elevator operators (and there are several of them), who also act as doormen, are very inquisitive and question visitors as to whom they plan to see.

5. It would be appreciated if the Office of Logistics would aid in locating a new site to be utilized by the cover organization. Following are some of the requirements for an apartment or private residence.

A. The apartment or private house should consist of seven or eight rooms, preferably with a basement area for storage and use as a duplicating and printing room.

B. It should be located in a non-Ukrainian, non-Russian area.

C. If possible, it should be located in a building with a self-service elevator, or on the second floor of a walk-up.

D. The site should be located in an area accessible to subway transportation, preferably the 7th or 8th Avenue subways.

E. One of the rooms is used for recording of PF radio tapes and storage of the recording equipment. Therefore, it would be desirable if one of the rooms would be suitable for sound-proofing.

F. If an apartment is secured, it should be in a building in which voices are not readily carried through the walls.

G. The proximity of other apartments in the building should be considered, so that there is as little traffic as possible in the area of the cover site entrance.

H. The site should be located near a post office.

Chief, SR/3

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