

22 March 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief/Operations, SR/DOB

SUBJECT: Weekly Progress Report, TU # 226, 15 March thru
21 March, 1954

This report covers the period of the first full week of operation of Phase II and is the second weekly report of the current phase. This phase will terminate, under present plans, on 8 April 54.

1. Arrivals, Departures, Telephone Calls:

There are no unusual visitors or callers to report. Plumbers have been called in to cope with a sewage problem at the tenant house. All other personnel were from the Agency and were properly admitted to do their duties at the safehouse. Such personnel are known to Andy by their training aliases only.

2. Psychological Problems

a. Andy revealed a feeling of dissatisfaction with his progress in the Russian language. He was positively upset and anxious at the limited time remaining for him to learn Russian. (See Project log notation for 19 March and 21 March.)

b. Andy is unhappy about the correspondence controls which we exercise over him. I informed him that he would be obliged to channel all his correspondence through to [] []. The matter at present rests between [] [] and Andy. Note: The correspondence in question was directed to Andy's wife in Sweden and concerned divorce arrangements between them.

c. Andy is required by me to submit a short written memo covering his unescorted activity in Washington when he goes in for rest and relaxation. As yet he has not done so because of "oversight". However, it is significant to report that he has told me that he will not reveal his girlfriends' names because he suspects they'll be checked. He informed me Saturday P.M. in this view while I was driving him in to Washington. He added confidentially that his principal girlfriend, whom he intends to marry some day, is still married to an Army officer. A

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divorce is imminent and Andy is apprehensive of potential harm to her situation.

d. Andy stated flatly that he expects to be free every Saturday evening and part of Sunday for the balance of this phase. This was stated categorically in the presence of [] and myself. Note: I request instruction on this matter.

e. I have been successful in eliminating Andy's original predisposition against Phase III at Ft. Bragg. He now is looking forward to the field exercise.

3. Morale: (See para 2, Weekly Progress Report, TU 226, dtd 14 March).

I believe there is a slight but noticeable drop from the high point of morale reported 14 March. This is not unexpected because of the nature of Andy's activity. He has been driving himself relentlessly. His only recreation during the week has been a few walks and a few games of chess with me and chats with Bruno. Despite the problems mentioned in para 3 above, my opinion is that his morale is basically very good. I submit that it is better for him to blow off a little steam irregularly than to keep his resentments and anxieties dammed up for a really serious explosion later. I have noticed that however pointed and apparent his objections and outbursts, there follows a period of readjustment and reconciliation with the hard facts.

4. Agent's Reaction to Program.

Andy's most serious reaction is his own feeling of inadequacy in learning Russian. He has expressed concern over the insufficient allotment of language instruction hours. When I suggested that he indicate what we should cut out of his program to replace with Russian, Andy looked helpless and said he couldn't cut out anything--but he needed more Russian just the same. This view, as expressed during the middle of the week, was modified at the end of the week. He also is concerned about the quantity of work yet to be done, arrangements yet to be made, and the rapidly approaching day of departure. On Saturday he was reassured by the document orientation he received from Hank and Ralph, and I think he has more confidence in our organization's ability to document him for his mission. He implied this to me.

5. Security Problem.

a. On two occasions, the name of a staff member, not currently assigned to this project, was mentioned in Andy's presence. On one occasion it is my opinion that Andy took note of the name. However, I have been informed that in all probability Andy already knew that name due to his long association with that person on previous projects. Both

incidents were unfortunate lapsus linguae and should be forgotten as such.

b. Due to a misunderstanding of operating instructions, the safehouse was left in sole charge of the housekeeping couple overnight. This couple is new at their duties, they are not bound by a contract as yet, and it is deemed inadvisable to leave them in sole charge overnight. I assume responsibility for not sufficiently orienting a junior case officer with this fact.

c. The woman who occupied the tenant house on the safehouse property has vacated the house. See Weekly Progress Report dated 14 March.

d. The housekeeping couple continues to occupy quarters within the main house. This is a constant security problem to which there is no solution under present conditions.

6. Disciplinary Problems.

It is apparent that two problems of discipline are in sight:
(a) Andy's announced intention not to reveal his girl friends' names;
(b) Andy's announced intention to go to town for unescorted recreation every weekend. In view of his principal girl friend's marital status which poses a potential threat to Andy, certain decisions will have to be made by higher authority for our guidance on the project.

7. Additional Comments and Observations.

a. Housekeepers and Tenant House.

The tenant house will not be ready for occupancy by our housekeepers before the end of this training cycle. The house lacks septic tank and I expect it will be some time before one is installed. However, if this place is to be used by subsequent projects, the matter should be resolved as soon as possible. There is an acute sanitation problem existing due to the raw sewage which has overflowed the waste pit in the front yard. This is less than 150 yards from the front door of the main house and is located at a point above our water supply.

b. Personnel Problems.

The present strength of two DOB staff members on this project is an insufficient number. We can continue to fulfill our obligations to the project, however, it is fairly trying due to the distances to be travelled and the fact that every alternate night must be spent at the project by each of us.

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c. We continue to receive a gratifying degree of cooperation from all DOB staff sections and personnel from TSS. I would particularly like to cite the cooperation of [redacted], the project commo instructor, who has fulfilled every single hour of instruction scheduled. In addition he has devoted extra time including a Saturday morning for additional commo instruction. In order for him to arrive at the safehouse for the scheduled morning hours he has had to get up at 0530 hours and drive sixty miles.

d. Summary of Progress.

It is my opinion that the project is progressing satisfactorily. Those psychological and morale problems noted in this report I do not consider unusual or unexpected due to the circumstances under which Andy is working. He is a hard worker and human enough to have occasional temperamental expressions of his feelings. Andy now occupies a room by himself since I had Bruno move his bed out into the bedroom used as a general dormitory.

Andy has asked on three occasions if I am going to accompany him to Germany. Apparently he wants me to go with him. I have not answered him directly due to the uncertainty of my position. Also I understand informally that I have been tentatively assigned to another project which may conflict with such a trip. I believe I have gained a firm hold on his good will despite the fact that we have been associated only a short time.

Note: Andy has submitted a typewritten report covering two periods of unescorted activity in Washington. (See para 2 c. above.)

This report ends as of 2400, 21 March 1954.

Attachment:

1 copy of Andy's report of Unescorted Activity, in Latvian (SR/2/[redacted]).

SR/DOB/[redacted] Jth

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