

Executive Registry
10-74-74

26 September 1958

FMC

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PRESENT: Mr. Simon Braude
Mr. [redacted]

1. Mr. Simon Braude met with the undersigned at 4:30 P.M. on 26 September, and related further his need for subsidization in the amount of \$20,000 to prepare a plan directed at the overthrow of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union. This plan would involve advising appropriate Army leaders, who would be instrumental in the coup, of what course would be taken if the Communist Party was overthrown or dissolved in the Soviet Union and replaced by a different political arm.

2. Braude's thesis was that the people of Russia and the Army disliked the Communist Party but did not take positive action for its overthrow because of the fear of creating a chaotic condition which would be exploited by Western powers, external Russian monarchists groups, and internal power seekers. He submitted that if this fear could be overcome by the presentation of a logical plan of evolution after a coup, this ideological approach would be successful.

3. The undersigned advised Mr. Braude that Mr. [redacted] would be told of the foregoing. However, throughout his conversation the undersigned attempted to question the practicality of the approach and conveyed support to Mr. [redacted] previous communication with the subject that this Agency could not underwrite his program. Mr. Braude intends to call Mr. [redacted] early next week.

[redacted]
Assistant to the Director

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(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE _____)

26 February 1958

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PRESENT: Mr. Simon Braude
Mr. [REDACTED]

1. On 25 February, Mr. Simon Braude attempted to make an appointment to see the Director but agreed to talk to the undersigned in the Director's absence. Mr. Braude came in about 2:30 p.m. and remained for approximately two hours. He stated that his present residence is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and that he is an idea man and consultant principally in the newspaper and publishing fields. He stated that while he is in Washington during the balance of the week, he is staying in a tourist home at [REDACTED]

2. Mr. Braude identified himself as being of Russian extraction and stated that he had been in the United States for the past eight years. Prior to leaving Russia in 1930, he was employed with a newspaper syndicate. He stated that he escaped from Russia under harrowing circumstances, made his way to Paris where he established himself in business and remained until he came to the United States. He still travels back and forth between the United States and Paris where he maintains some kind of a publishing business.

3. Mr. Braude stated that the purpose of his visit was to present a plan he has conceived whereby the United States and the USSR will be precluded from destroying each other through an all-out war. He feels that an atomic war utilizing intercontinental ballistic missiles is inevitable unless his plan is followed to prevent it. He stated that he had been attempting to obtain action on his plan since 1953 and showed me a letter he had received from Mr. C. D. Jackson, then a White House assistant, stating that his plan could not at that time be favorably considered for policy reasons. Since then, a number of matters which Mr. Braude had previously predicted, i.e. the Russian scientific successes and the Hungarian uprising (particularly by the young people), had come to pass and he felt it appropriate to again push his proposals strongly.

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4. Mr. Braude stated that he and ten friends of his, all of Russian extraction and all employed in private American enterprise in various locations in the United States and Europe, have developed a plan whereby the Kremlin may be overthrown. His proposal involves the utilization of the Red Army to overthrow the political leadership in Moscow and he is confident that this can be done if the Red Army leadership is persuaded that it would be advantageous from their point of view and the point of view of the Russian people to do so.

5. According to Mr. Braude, his plan also encompasses the factors which will persuade the Red Army leadership that the overthrow of the Kremlin is desirable. In the course of the conversation, Mr. Braude pointed out that neither the Red Army leaders nor the Russian people could be persuaded that the Communist dictatorship should be overthrown and capitalism substituted therefor. Neither could they be persuaded to revert to Caesarism nor to a monarchy or some version of capitalism other than as practiced in the United States. Mr. Braude then went on to say without giving details that the plan devised by him and his friends did offer an alternative which he was convinced would be acceptable to the Russian people and to the Red Army hierarchy who would have to issue the orders for the overthrow of the Kremlin rulers.

6. Mr. Braude went on to point out that neither he nor any of his associates had ever been tied in any way with the NKVD or any of the other Russian emigre groups. He stressed that the Soviet propaganda throughout the years has discredited these groups inside of Russia as much if not more than the continuous barrage has discredited capitalism.

7. He stated that his plan encompasses either some or all of his friends becoming active participants in the new government of Russia after the overthrow of the present dictatorship. He stressed that they would have to do their work quietly and confine their activities to the present number of individuals involved so there would be no chance for the Soviet propaganda machine to learn of them and turn loose propaganda to discredit them internally prior to the time their plan could be implemented.

8. Mr. Braude noted that over the past few years he had spent several thousand dollars from his own funds in attempting to convince the United States Government to support and implement his proposals. He pointed out that the plan he submitted in 1953 to the White House needs to be brought up to date at the present time although it is basically much the same.

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9. Mr. Braude mentioned that in addition to having submitted his proposals to the White House previously, he had had conversations with a colonel in Admiral Radford's office in 1955 during his chairmanship of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. During Mr. Braude's present visit in Washington, he again has an appointment in the Office of the Joint Chiefs and is also attempting to get an appointment with General Cutler in the White House and will probably see other persons in the State Department and Department of Defense.

10. Mr. Braude expressed a need at the present time for a maximum of \$15,000 to \$20,000 to pay for necessary expenses for travel, typing, translations, etc. with which he states he can submit to the United States Government a detailed plan which he virtually guarantees, if implemented, can be used as a basis for the overthrow of the Kreslin. He expressed the fervent hope that someone in the U. S. Government would advance him this sum for which he would account scrupulously. He expressed his great concern that if action is not taken along the line of his proposals soon a war will ensue resulting in the destruction of both the U.S. and the USSR.

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TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
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2			
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ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
<p>Remarks:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Will you please let me have your comments on this and an indication of whether or not you wish to pursue this any further.</p> <p>cc: C/SR C/TF ED/NSP</p> <p style="margin-left: 200px;"><i>er file direct</i> <i>1 Extra copy (JMC) direct</i> <i>JMC Suspense direct</i></p>			
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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
[Redacted]			Asst. to the Director 2/26
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