

AIR

EOFA-16194

Chief of Base, Munich

13 May 1957

Chief of Base, Frankfurt

Operational/DIZTAG, []

Josef FARNOPIL

REFERENCES: A. FROB-6466, dated 5 April 1957
B. EGSA-9365, dated 26 April 1957

1. Forwarded herewith is a brief requested in Ref. A and transmitted from CIA to FBI by Ref. B. The brief includes all information available in the files of CIC concerning Josef Farnopil and his relations with the Czech Trade Mission, Frankfurt.

2. As per Ref. A we request that we be informed of any action taken by you in pursuing this case.

Approved: _____
[]

Attachment:
As stated (herewith)

Distribution:
2 - [] w/1 cc att.
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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2003 2006

SECRET

ATT: EOFA-16194

B R I E F

19 April 1957

SUBJECT: DARNOPIL, Josef (U)
Date of Birth: 20 December 1908
Place of Birth: TISHNOWITZ, CSR

In November 1952 SUBJECT sent two letters to Jaroslav URBAN, Chief of the Czech Trade Mission, FRANKFURT/Main, Rosserstrasse 4. The first letter stated that prior to December 1951 SUBJECT had received a file of persons to be "persecuted" in the CSR for their allegiance to the Czechoslovak government. He received the file from Alois BUBLIK, a former employee of Radio Free Europe, who was also working for French Intelligence. The file was given to SUBJECT as security for a loan and was later to be turned over to (Fnu) TISEK who was mentioned as a co-worker of BUBLIK. In ending the letter, SUBJECT indicated that he was willing to make "an agreement" to take revenge for his treatment at the hands of the local population. He also indicated that he had forwarded the file. The second letter, written a few days later, was in reply to a letter written by URBAN. In this letter, SUBJECT stated that he had contacted the Czechoslovak Consulate in MUNICH in 1949, unsuccessfully seeking employment. SUBJECT desired to make some kind of arrangement now with URBAN's office. SUBJECT further mentioned that he had been contacted by (Fnu) PLOTICA from Camp Valka, NUERNBERG, who reportedly worked for both US and French Intelligence. PLOTICA wanted SUBJECT to make translations into German of reports he had previously rendered the Americans and French. PLOTICA would then attempt to sell these reports to other Western European consulates in MUNICH. SUBJECT did not want to become involved in this but was willing to furnish URBAN with copies or originals of the reports. SUBJECT did not specifically indicate that these reports were actually in his possession but inclosed a listing of them with the letter. SUBJECT also inclosed a photograph of himself and his wife. Concerning his own background, SUBJECT stated that he was a native of TISNOV, CSR, and that he was presently employed by the Bavarian Ministry of Justice as an interpreter in the Czech language. The letter indicated that SUBJECT had previously mentioned his daughter, Eva, to URBAN. Eva lives in BRNO, CSR, and SUBJECT desired to visit her or have her visit him. SUBJECT ended the second letter by reiterating his desire to work for URBAN. Technical coverage on SUBJECT up until January 1955 failed to indicate further contact with URBAN, the Czech Trade Mission, FRANKFURT/Main, and/or anything of any apparent counterintelligence interest.

Coverage of the Czech Trade Mission, FRANKFURT/Main, Rosserstrasse 4, revealed that Jaroslav URBAN received a letter from SUBJECT on 17 November 1952. This letter acknowledged URBAN's answer to a

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previous letter from DARMOPIL. In the first letter, SUBJECT had informed URBAN that he would like URBAN's help in visiting his daughter or having his daughter visit him. SUBJECT's daughter resided in CSR. DARMOPIL requested a personal interview with URBAN and expressed his desire to aid the CSR. URBAN replied by mail that a personal meeting was improbable; he wrote that anything DARMOPIL had to say should be sent by regular mail. In his second letter, SUBJECT explained that he had been born in the CSR and was now working in MUNICH as a Czech-German translator in the Bavarian Ministry of Justice. He went into detail to explain that he was hardly earning enough to subsist. DARMOPIL asked URBAN if he could possibly employ him at the Czech Mission. Accompanying the letter, DARMOPIL sent a list of subjects of the reports that he had received from a (Mr.) PLOTICA to translate. PLOTICA interrogates border crossers and writes reports in Czech on the information received. The reports are then sold to the French and Americans. SUBJECT also made reference to a card file which he was mailing immediately, accompanied by a letter of explanation. On 18 November 1952 URBAN received the above mentioned card file. After glancing through the file he commented that the contents were very interesting. Later, he said that the files were unimportant as they concerned names of people living in Czechoslovakia who had been persecuted because they were politically unreliable. He commented that the cards were dated 1950 and were outdated. He said that he would burn them. On 19 November 1952, after URBAN had left for PRAGUE, CSR, the letter explaining the card file arrived at the Mission. The letter explained that DARMOPIL had received the card file as collateral for a loan of two hundred Deutsche Marks which he had made to a friend of his, Alois BUBLIK, a Czech National. SUBJECT went on to explain that BUBLIK had worked for Radio Free Europe, listening to the Czechoslovakian programs and reported the information to the French Information Service. BUBLIK also picked up information from Czechs at Camp Valka and imparted it to Radio Free Europe. URBAN was notified by phone that this letter had arrived. He said that he was not interested because the information was outdated.

On 26 November 1952 Jaroslav URBAN arrived in FRANKFURT/Main from PRAGUE, CSR. URBAN stated that he had taken the card file from DARMOPIL to PRAGUE with him. He mentioned that he had been reproached by the PRAGUE officials for attempting to handle matters which did not concern the field of Foreign Trade. He went on to explain that the card file was found to be unimportant and, therefore, no further action would be taken to contact DARMOPIL. However, it is possible that URBAN made this statement for security reasons as this remark is in direct contradiction to his first reaction to the card file. When he first encountered the card file, he became excited and seemed to consider it important.

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On 3 December 1952 URBAN expressed his intention to visit Robert GREGOR of the firm Bayerische Brennstoff Import Gesellschaft, BAYREUTH, to discuss with Gregor the difficulties that the Czechs are having in fulfilling their contract with Gregor for the delivery of brown coal. He also casually mentioned that when he goes to BAYREUTH, he may take the opportunity and stop in MUNICH. Since URBAN does not speak enough German to carry on a conversation, it is believed that he plans to visit a Czech speaking individual in MUNICH. He may visit Josef DARMOPIL or (Mr.) SRAMOTA, both of whom live in MUNICH and speak Czech. SRAMOTA of the firm I.G. Farben, MUNICH, had called at the office and discussed the possibility of exporting aniline dyes to the CSR. SRAMOTA is a Czech national who lives at MUNICH, Millerstrasse 3. Josef DARMOPIL, MUNICH, Diemenstrasse 36, had at one time written URBAN a letter asking for aid.

On 10 December 1952 URBAN cancelled his trip to BAYREUTH and MUNICH and planned to go to PRAGUE, CSR, on 11 December 1952.

No further information concerning SUBJECT is listed in the dossiers of the Czech Trade Mission.