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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
CHINA THEATER
X-2 BRANCH
REPORT

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YKX-933

Report No. YKX- 933
Local File No:

Office of Origin: SHANGHAI

Report Made At: TIENTSIN	Date: 10 DECEMBER 1945	Period Covered: 1942-1945 JANUARY 1942-1945	Made By: MD BH 072,211,212
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Subject: INTERVIEW WITH MORRIS LEVITSKY, aka MAURICE, aka LEVITSKE, LEVIT.	Status: CLOSED
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Classification: INFORMATION CONCERNING	CLOSED
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References:

Source: SUBJECT:

DOB - 01/03 NO. CHINA
CIT - USSR
A TIENTSIN (145)

Details:

1. LEVITSKY describes himself as follows: First name Maurice, but also uses Morris, Moris. Last name LEVITSKY, but also uses LEVITSKE, LEVIT. Age 52, height 5 feet, weight 134 pounds.
2. Family data. Father deceased. Mother Mrs. Mary LEVITSKY lives at 64 Ex-Colombo Road, Tientsin. Sister Elizabeth LEVITSKY at same address. Sister Mrs. John Andrew lives with husband at Astor House, Tientsin. Sister Mrs. Anthony DALIMORE lives with husband, who is employed by Kailin Mining Administration, Tientsin. LEVITSKY has never married. At present LEVITSKY is living in the house owned by his mother at No. 64 Ex-Colombo Road, Tientsin, and plans to remain there until 'the situation in Shanghai quiets down'.
3. LEVITSKY was born and received his early education in Tientsin and Tsingtao. He went to Germany in 1912 and remained there until 1918, studying languages at Kiel. He passed through Russia in 1912 on the way to Germany, and again in 1918 on the way back to China. In 1924 he traveled in Europe and U.S. In 1925 he obtained Russian citizenship papers at Harbin. LEVITSKY stated that during all this time and in all his studies he was preparing for a career as linguist, interpreter, and language teacher. He speaks, reads, writes English, German, Russian and French, and has an academic background in Latin. He stated that his occupation has always been related to languages, with occasional brokerage efforts; and denied any imputation of smuggling, espionage, racketeering, or any other enterprises where linguists might be found.

Evaluation: D-4
Distribution: 2-Washington ✓
1-Hq. & Hq. Det.
4-Shanghai (1-62)
1-Tientsin

1-11 765

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Approved By: YKX 933
Officer in Charge
10 Dec 45

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4. LEVITSKY admitted the following police record:
Arrested in Shanghai 1929 charged with operating a gambling house, and acquitted. Arrested in Shanghai 1931 for gun running, sentenced to 1 year and served it in Amoy Road jail. Arrested in Shanghai in 1938 for conspiracy in connection with forgery of bank drafts, served 2 years in Ward Road jail.
5. LEVITSKY stated that he knew EUGENE HOVANS, also known as HOVANT, PICK, KLIGE. He described HOVANS as age 50, height 5' 8", weight 155 lbs, either completely bald or with hair shaved from head, very slow and deliberate in his movements. He said that HOVANS' last known address was the Cathay Hotel Shanghai, and that HOVANS was seen on a train between Pukow-Tientsin about July, 1945. He believes that some high white Russians in Peiping or Shanghai may know Hovan's present whereabouts. According to LEVITSKY, HOVANS was married, but his wife died in Shanghai in 1935. There were no children. HOVANS was employed as a radio singer (tenor). 'Everyone' knew he was a Japanese agent, employed in the Intelligence section of the Navy. LEVITSKY professed not to know what sort of information HOVANS sought. *Cit. Germany?*
6. LEVITSKY knew FRIEDERICK WIEHL, also known as FRITZ. 'All journalists in Shanghai knew him'. His address was 3rd floor, Metropole Hotel from 1941 to June 1945. He claimed German citizenship, but LEVITSKY says he was unable to write good German. In Shanghai WIEHL was considered 'a communist', 'an American labor leader', and 'an American spy who was posing as a German'. LEVITSKY believed the last. He told LEVITSKY that he had a wife and son living in Berlin. He wrote articles for the 'twentieth century', and made propaganda speeches over Radio Station XGRS. He was known for his possession of large sums of U.S. dollars, which he displayed and cashed publicly and freely. LEVITSKY thinks some Shanghai journalists may know WIEHL's whereabouts.
7. A friend of HOVANS was [redacted] his brother PETER [redacted]. These ex-Russians were young men, both boxers, description and addresses unknown to LEVITSKY. When HOVANS disappeared for one month in the summer of 1944, PAUL LOJNICKOFF was missing at the same time. HOVANS and LOJNICKOFF were seen talking together many times.
8. Another friend of HOVANS was ADRIAN KASHIN, described as age 42, height 6' 1", 180 lbs. 'A man with a big nose'. He lived at Bubbling Well Road, corner Yates Road, Shanghai. Now a stateless white Russian, KASHIN has had much police trouble and was a newsman who associated much with HOVANS.
9. Another name suggested by LEVITSKY as a friend of HOGANS is GEORGE RABEN, aka RUBINOVITCH, a Russian Jew whose address and further description was unknown to LEVITSKY.

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10. LEVITSKY NAMED no one as an associate of WIEHL. LEVITSKY protested his perfectly maintained neutrality during the entire war, denied having any more than a casual acquaintance with any of those named.

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