

SECRET

20 March 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Ferdinand DURCAESKY

1. On 20 March 1959 I called on Mr. Sommerlatte, Head of the Czech Desk, State Department, to ascertain how Mr. DURCAESKY had managed to gain admission into the U.S. on an Immigration Visa in spite of his somewhat cluttered background.

2. Sommerlatte informed me that DURCAESKY's visa and his admittance into the U.S. had been the subject of considerable correspondence and discussion between his office, the Consulate General in Munich, and the Office of Consular Affairs in the Department of State. The attitude of the Czech Desk was, and still is, that Mr. DURCAESKY's entry into the U.S. is not in the public interest. It was the opinion of the Visa Office and of the Consulate General that in spite of Subject's history of association with the Nazis early in the war, his affiliation with the Slovak Separatist movement, charges of smuggling narcotics, etc., etc., there was nothing substantial upon which to base a visa refusal.

3. Included in Sommerlatte's file were a few items of recent correspondence which should be consulted in the event that Subject, for any reason, becomes of active interest to us:

- a. A letter from Mr. <sup>JOSKO</sup> ~~Lesko~~ of the <sup>Council</sup> Consulate for Free Czechoslovakia dated March 1959, protesting his entry.
- b. <sup>an</sup> OMV from the Department to the Consulate General in Munich. This memorandum is undated but was presumably sent in late 1958 or early 1959. ~~This date~~ can, of course, be easily ascertained if necessary. This OMV cites OMV-245 dated May 1958 also concerning Subject. In effect, the undated memorandum reviewed the charges against Subject and stated that the Department could find no cause for his exclusion.
- c. A letter from Mr. Busek of the Czech National Council dated 6 March 1959 protesting Subject's entry.
- d. A letter from the Department signed by John W. Hanes dated 13 March 1959, explaining the case to Congressman Celler, who had protested Subject's entry.

4. The file indicates that Subject entered the U.S. from Canada on 10 February 1959.

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