

SECRET

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: HENNYEY, (General) Gustave

The files of this office contain voluminous references concerning Subject, most of which reflects nothing of a derogatory nature; however, certain information, largely consisting of unsubstantiated allegations, is summarized as follows:

A. In a report dated 16 June 1953 from an unevaluated source it was alleged that Gustave HENNYEY, a representative of the Hungarian National Committee in Germany, was to be commissioned to create a political intelligence organization within the framework of the Committee for Free Europe and the Hungarian National Committee. It was further indicated that no concrete knowledge of any intelligence activity on the part of Subject had yet been found.

B. Reports during April 1952 indicated that Subject, who was granted a visa to enter the United States on 21 November 1951, was denied an extension of this visa beyond the expiration date of 21 March 1952. The reports indicated further that neither Subject nor his employer, the National Council for Free Europe (NCFE), had been able to determine why his case was held in suspense. Source stated that the NCFE had pleaded that denial of Subject's permit to visit the United States would deeply affect the work of the Hungarian National Committee.

C. Reports from an unevaluated source compiled during August 1949 and January 1950 reflect the following assertions concerning Subject:

1. Subject was a double agent, said to have a Communist attitude, and was "marked by Hungarians as a Communist."
2. Subject caused great difficulties ("with regard to future emigration") for Hungarians who had fled Hungary and was accused of instigating delivery of thousands of Hungarian officers from the Americans to the Soviets after the war, resulting in the death of all the Hungarians.
3. The struggle against Subject was led by the "Hungarian Council in Germany" which functioned in Landslut, Bavaria, and "enjoyed a good reputation."

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4. Subject maintained contact with (Communist) Hungary and was said to have received money from there via France.

5. Information supposedly brought out of Hungary "showed" that Subject was active for the Soviets, although nothing could be done about this because "he was liked by the Americans."

6. Subject was in contact with one Dessoe STERN who was involved in many suspicious political matters in Munich, Germany, and was a convinced Communist.

7. The report submitted the following as evidence that Subject was active for the Communists: Subject's family (in Budapest) was apparently treated very well and was able to make two illegal trips to Munich to visit Subject, whereas the father of another emigre was arrested by the Soviets and held as hostage when the emigre fled Hungary.

8. It was believed possible that, for no apparent reason, Subject was being harassed (as was the practice among emigres), and that the Americans therefore did not take many of the assertions against Subject seriously. The only proof (at the time) was a leaflet (sic) signed by "anti-Fascists", but believed to be a purely Communist document.

It is suggested that a check be made with the Federal Bureau of Investigation for possible further information concerning Subject.

RI/SC: AMJ/WC/jp

based on: L

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