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31 October 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Murder of TAF Contract Employee in Burma

1. At 2:30 P.M. on 31 October I was informed by the San Francisco office of The Asia Foundation that its office in Rangoon had provided the following information by cable:

- A. At about 1 P.M. on 30 October 1960 Dr. Karl L. Herczeg, TAF contract employee assigned to the University of Rangoon, International Relations Training Center, was killed by bandits.
- B. The killing occurred near Taungyi in the Shan States. Herczeg was in the area in connection with a tax survey for which the Shan State Government requested TAF assistance. Herczeg was enroute from Taungyi to Wayin Farm accompanied by a driver and an assistant.
- C. The report is not clear on these points but it is assumed that the driver and assistant were Burmese. Neither was injured.
- D. The driver and the assistant brought the body of Herczeg to Taungyi. Presumably it was they who reported that the car was stopped by bandits who fired "point-blank" at Herczeg when he resisted demands to turn over his money.
- E. Officials in Taungyi wired the TAF office in Rangoon. David Steinberg, Assistant Representative (Jim Dalton, the Representative is in Tokyo at the annual TAF conference), went immediately to Taungyi and accompanied the body back to Rangoon.
- F. Steinberg has notified Herczeg's parents who live in Vienna and a woman, probably his fiancee, who lives in Paris.

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- G. Herczeg is an Austrian citizen. Steinberg has notified the Austrian Embassy in Karachi; presumably that is the nearest location of Austrian diplomatic representation.
- H. Steinberg has notified the President of The Asia Foundation who is in Tokyo at the Conference.

2. IO/2 notified the Office of Security, at about 2:45 P.M., October 31.

3. Herczeg was born in Funfkirchen, Hungary in 1924. He left Communist Hungary and became a naturalized citizen of Austria. He held a Ph.D. from the University of Commerce in Vienna where he taught from 1952 to 1955. He was employed for three years by the Organization for European Economic Cooperation.

4. Dr. Herczeg was hired by TAF in October 1959. He arrived in Rangoon on October 31, 1959.

5. Dr. Herczeg was not witting of Agency relationship with TAF.

c/IO/2

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