

SR

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION SECRET	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. OSSA-13000
TO INFO	Chief, SR Chief, WE		HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. []
FROM	[]		DATE 31 March 1964
SUBJECT	REDWOOD KUWOLF AECYMBAL Lead for AECYMBAL Program		RE "433" - (CHECK "X" ONE)
			MARKED FOR INDEXING
			NO INDEXING REQUIRED
ACTION REQUIRED	For Your Information		INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY
REFERENCE(S)	<p>A. OSSA-12700, 5 November 1963 B. OSSA-12874, 4 February 1964</p> <p><i>Answers HALVINS</i></p> <p>1. As indicated in Reference B, we would like to offer the Subject of [] as a candidate for the AECYMBAL program. We realize that there are a number of old unresolved accusations against him, but our own assessment (see below) plus that of [] during his tenure here make it hard for us to accept these accusations as bona fide. Given the age of the derogatory information, such as it is, we doubt that it will ever be possible to arrive at a definite resolution of all the questions ever raised regarding Subject, though a frank interview with him might well resolve many of them. We would appreciate an indication of Headquarters' interest in our proposal.</p> <p>2. To bring Headquarters up to date, Subject has recently been issued a visa to the US, where he intends to go in May. He will first visit Professor FAINSDORF at Harvard, then proceed to Columbia University, where he hopes to look into the Old Menshevik records held there. He will then go to Washington for some research in the Library of Congress, and finally travel to Stanford University to check the Hoover collection there. His main interests at all of these stops will be Soviet propaganda and the Soviet treatment of minority groups. He will be traveling under a Ford Grant issued by the Institute of International Education in New York which provides him with \$315 per month while he is in residence at Harvard, and \$25 per diem (KUBARK take notice) while on the road. His precise itinerary is unknown to us at this time, but we will attempt to obtain it if, indeed, it is decided on yet.</p> <p>3. Over the past few months we have had occasional contacts with Subject, the most recent ones in relation to his forthcoming US visit and to his invitation to [] to speak at his study group. (The latter topic will be covered in a separate dispatch.) In the course of these meetings we have learned that Subject has already served as a KUWOLF briefer for delegations going to the USSR. He specifically mentioned one group associated with the Royal Scientific Academy which he had addressed on Soviet questions and answers, rules of comporting oneself in the USSR, and general information on the country.</p> <p>4. Subject's job has also afforded him a meeting with at least two Soviet literary types, the first being of the SURKOV persuasion and not worth talking to, but the second being more amenable to reason and conversation. This man, fnu DEMENTYEV, had visited Subject's place of work in late 1963 while temporarily freed of his tourist group's compulsory sight-seeing. He was apparently a loyal Soviet citizen but freely criticized a hostile article written by the first visitor on his return to the USSR. (Naturally this individual's freedom of action and speech raises certain questions concerning his affiliations and true reason for visiting Subject's workplace, but Subject's own frankness concerning the contact seems to point away from any skulduggery involving Subject himself.)</p> <p>5. In short, Subject has access to individuals going into the USSR and at least some potential for contact with Soviets traveling out. As indicated previously he will be retiring shortly (though at our most recent meeting he indicated he might be able to stay in his current job for a while longer), and being a vigorous man despite his years will presumably be looking for ways to channel his energies into useful fields. Our own assessment of Subject is that he would be a good man for the AECYMBAL program. He gives every appearance of being staunchly anti-Soviet, and is impatient with Sweden's timid foreign policy. His bitter feud of long</p>		
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standing with MYRDAL naturally warms us to him (he has flatly called MYRDAL a "Soviet agent" in our presence, though he was perhaps not talking in the classical sense here), and there is no question that he is the guiding spirit which has held together the fledgling group of which he is again the titular head. His long tenure in the academic community makes him a natural person not only for young students to seek out for advice, but for more senior individuals and groups as well (Paragraph 3 above). Though his reputation is built on academic achievements, Subject is not at all the retiring researcher but has a warm personality and reacts well with people. He probably has fairly good organizational skills, and is certainly highly respected by all members of his group and by other with whom we have discussed him. [] and [] both think well of him, and, yes, even [] had to admit grudgingly that he was a good man, though "prejudiced somewhat by his national origins." It is hard at this point to pass judgment on Subject's operational aptitude; he seems perhaps too frank and straightforward an individual to take kindly to sneaking around corners or practicing sophisticated clandestine techniques. Despite his anti-Soviet attitude and research in the Soviet field, we doubt that he has too good a picture of the KIS and its activities (he seems to have taken DEMENTYEV completely at face value, for example). On the other hand these very qualities make him good for the AECYMBAL program, and it is possible that in time he might get more of a feel and interest for such other activities as spotting and assessing.

6. At this point it is also hard to predict how Subject would react to an outspoken KUBARK pitch. We believe that the technique used by [] for his approach to [] is a better one in this regard, and though Subject himself might well immediately arrive at his own conclusions regarding the true sponsorship, we believe that he would keep his views to himself. Subject's English is not too good, but he is of course fluent in Russian, and also speaks accented but fluent German. As far as we can judge at the present time, the main difficulty will be convincing Subject intellectually that the program has merit and is worth his efforts. Because of his forthcoming retirement, however, we believe that a strong pitch a la [] would probably do the trick; Subject wants to be doing something, and is probably more willing to take up new concepts at this stage in his career. On the other hand, we do not believe that the time is ripe to start discussing cover mechanisms until we have had a chance to see how Subject performs.

7. Pending a reply to this dispatch we are of course saying nothing to Subject regarding any possible contact in FBPRIME. Should Headquarters' reaction be favorable, however, we believe the easiest way of effecting contact would be for [] to pave the way with a letter of introduction to [] or whoever else Headquarters nominates and to say that [] is writing the individual in question so that contact can be arranged at either side's instigation. (We will also obtain more exact itinerary information and forward it to Headquarters in time for any meet.) Please advise us of your views on this suggestion as soon as possible, indicating the name and address of the person to be contacted by Subject.

31 March 1964

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