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TO: [redacted]
FROM: Mario K. Giordano

March 7, 1954

Subject: Contract effective as of 1 Oct, 1953, not yet signed.

Having in mind the stipulation of point 7 of this contract and the experiences which I have made during the last year of my employment with the U.S. Government, I should like the following points of the Contract precised or the sense of the present wording explained to me:

A.

1. In the preamble of the contract. What is the sense and reason of changing the Employer's name from the C.I.A., as I think was used in the old contract, to the U.S. Government? Is it a step "down" my employment ladder?

2. ... "as a Covert Associate". When starting working with this Authority, in September, 1952, I declared that I am doing this out of my sense of duty as an Officer of my Homeland. I am glad to go on working with this Authority for the benefit of the U.S.A. and of my Homeland sofar the interests of both Countries in fighting the Communism remain accordant.

It would help the cause if now, me being a resident of the States, I would be enlisted as an officer of my homeland in the U.S. Forces, and if so deemed neccessary, delegated to this Authority for the service and duties of confidential nature as mentioned in the preamble of the contract.

This would satisfy me much better than my present status. This would also be a very good cover for my real work with this Authority. This would automatically settle many inconveniences of administrative and social character now having been reason for worries.

I think that a possibility to settle this question is given by the "Treaty between the United States of America and N (my homeland) - Friendship, Commerce and Consular Rights" the § 6 of which treats the drafting of the citizens of the both contractors during the war time. The Treaty is still in vigor, the States are in war, as is my homeland, and I, as a commissioned officer of my country, would respond such a call without delay. This traty does not bear any limitations as to "cold" or "warm" war or to the ~~act~~ act of "declaration of war". The enemy is the Communism, with the battle-fronts everywhere in the World.

I think that if this change in my leagal status could be effected, this surely would bring better conditions of my working and better results of it with your Authority. Till now, although trying to do my best for the States, I have the feeling that I and my family are in the cross-draughts: from one side submitted to all the dangers emerging from such secret work to a political refugee who can not use an innocet cover of an ordinary laborer, and from the other side in fear of being fired not because of my own fault, but of some one man's whim. But I am making no issue of these two questions for signing a contract.

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B. Point 1. Compensation.

1. During the last year (March 1953 to March 1954) I had to do approximately 800 overhours, not counting the time lost for driving to and from the working place outside the D.C.

There was nothing said in the old contract of the overtime pay, although the weekly working hours were limited to 40. I do not grumble because of this, as I am not working for money only and I understand that the task needed overhours.

But it is clear by now to me, that I can not go on working on similar or worse terms, the weekly limit of working hours being left out of the contract and the wording being "in full consideration for \$ 5000 per annum". In my advanced age and my family-responsibilities I need more income than this. If this Authority does not find my full- and overtime work worth of better compensation, then I must ask for strict limitation of my working time, so I could earn some additional income by working during the time left over. I feel that I am able to do this. I do not find this being my fault that this Authority or at least some of my supervisors of the last year have in some occasions not liked to use my qualifications and harthy work to which I am used.

2. Be it pointed out, that I was practically in better financial conditions when working with this Authority in Germany, with \$ 4200 per annum than I am now here, with \$ 5000 per annum.

3. There was a support up to \$ 300.0 allowed with the last contract for the case that J would have moved my family to Washington, D.C.. I did not move the family mostly on reasons depending of the actual conditions of my work:

a) in the beginning I was advised not to bring the family over too early, before getting fully acquainted with the work and the living conditions in Washington.

b) then I was asked to live in the Safe House, and it would have been against any security regulations to bring the family over to Washington in a time when I had myself to stay permanently outside.

c) later, since Oct. 1953, I have been thinking that I was sitting on a too "shaky chair" myself for daring to pull the family out of the little comfort my wife had established in New York with so much effort.

In case that I will have a two-year contract and that I can be sure that this will not be terminated earlier without a grave reason but with one month notice, I surely will bring my family to Washington, and therefore I am asking that this support be maintained in the new contract.

C. Point 8. Term.

1. The ~~xxxxxxx~~ right of termination should be bipartite. In present wording there is no possibility for me for termination before 1 Oct, 1955. The experiences of the last year showed me that this possibility should exist. I do not like

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to "hang around" when I see that there is no work for me or that my supervisor is not satisfied with my work. When coming to the States, not knowing the habits and the capacity of my new superiors and of the other people to work with, I would not know whether I am able to get along with the American requirements. Now, after one year of work, under guidance of different supervisors, I feel myself able to render even better and more valuable work to this Authority than I was able to perform during this year, the first in the States, in quite peculiar working conditions. My time is costly to me, not only for earning the living but for doing things, too. Therefore, for such cases that I should feel that my stay with this Authority would mean but loss of my time and of the money of the U.S. Government, I like have the right of termination, too.

2. Work under the conditions of this or ^A similar contract can not be compared with work on any other field, where one can be fired without special reason and without causing any special harm to the fired person. In my case of an aged newcomer working with this Authority means continuation of my learned professional work. It surely is clear to everybody concerned that such work keeps one far from other fields of activity and of the experiences in these other fields which the person could use when his contract would be terminated. I know how such workers were dealt with in my country and in some European countries. I think that this is likeable here, too. But this is not expressed in this contract and I do not know who, the direct supervisor, the Contracting Officer or who else, is having the right to terminate this contract, be this on month's notice or without any notice. In my homeland I worked on a post from where but the Commander in Chief of the Army could release me, when advancing me to a higher post. I was glad never having deserved any admonishment during the many years I was working on this post. This was the case during the W.W.II, when I had to work together with the Germans, although the Nazi-German Government did not recognize my Country as a State any longer. But in the States, my Country still recognized by the States, and me working conscientiously, as to my own estimation, and with full pull and responsibility, I already got admonished for things in which I felt and feel being absolutely pure.

- This here is not a rising a complaint, but I should like to explain the difficulties I have had to fight with, so the person who drafts the contracts and those who have to care for the "joy of working" of the personnel could take the measures they find appropriate. I should like have the wording of this point a little more clear, so to be sure that I would not be fired but because somebody happens not to like me, or my habit of working too much and saying so if finding that something is going wrong.

Respectfully yours

Mario L. Grodeno