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per CSN 43-43

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2005

SR/2-B-62-192

17 July 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: AD/BDP

SUBJECT : Planned Operations against Soviets
Visiting in the United States

1. In accordance with Headquarters Notice 51-100-2, "Exploitation of Soviet Bloc Visitors to the United States", approval is requested for the following planned operations against Soviet citizens who are participating in the international track meet at Stanford University in California, 21 and 22 July 1962:

a. The [] Soviet [] had stated his dissatisfaction with the Soviet regime to contacts of CIA at the 1960 Rome Olympics. At that time it was suggested to him that he defect, but he declined, stating that he might do this sometime in the future. In late winter of 1961 during the international meets in New York, [] told a contact of this Agency that he might defect during the 1962 meet in California. Accordingly, the same individual who was in contact with him both in Rome and in New York is being sent by us to California under appropriate cover to contact [] and sound him out regarding defection. A staff officer will be on hand to contact the target directly should this seem necessary or appropriate. A defection by an individual of [] caliber and stature -- particularly at this time, just prior to the Helsinki Youth Festival -- we feel would be of great CA potential. [] has already committed himself -- as reflected in Attachment A to this memorandum -- sufficiently deeply that the probability of a blow-back we feel is minimal.

b. As reflected in Attachment B to this memorandum, the [] Soviet-Latvian athlete [] has in the past indicated some dissatisfaction with

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the Soviet regime; but, because of his family attachments, he has declined a defection offer as early as 1953. We are sending an American alien coach who was in good contact with [] during the Melbourne Olympics in 1956 to recontact [] and further assess him with the view of a recruitment of this individual as an internal reporting source. Should the assessment by the American coach prove favorable and if [] is willing, a staff officer will be on hand to assess this individual further and to recruit him if this appears to be in order.

2. The staff officer involved is [] of this Division who had prior contact with [] during the Rome Olympics. []

3. These operations are being coordinated with the Office of Operations.

[]
Chief, BR

Attachments: H/W
As stated above

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ATTACHMENT A

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SUBJECT: []

1. During the Rome Olympics in 1960 Subject made good friends with []

[] During his contact with these two men he told these men that his "eyes" had been opened to the Soviet regime while he had been in Philadelphia for an international meet in the summer of 1959; he objected to the absence of basic liberties, the low Soviet living standards, and the regime's hypocritical ruthlessness. In addition to this he expressed some anti-Russian (as opposed to anti-Soviet) feelings. Upon obtaining the necessary clearances the staff officer, [] [] instructed [] to suggest defection to Subject. This was done and Subject expressed some interest, particularly when [] mentioned to him that he [] could introduce Subject to "an American who could speak to Subject in the latter's own language and who knew all about the mechanics of political asylum". Subject readily agreed and thereafter met [] for almost an hour. During this period of time [] wanted to know what awaited him should he defect, and he was told that he would be given asylum in the West, possibly even in the United States, that he would be helped in learning the language of his new adopted country, that he would be helped with his education, and that he would be helped with getting himself resettled in the West. Subject did not agree to defect on the spot but stated that he had to think the matter over and that he would meet the Case Officer the following day. The next day, however, after Subject met with [] he told them that he had been too hard hit with philosophy, that his head was in a spin, and that he had to think the whole matter through.

2. In late February-early March of 1961 Subject came to an international indoor meet in New York City. Here he was met, separately, by both [] [] asked Subject directly whether Subject wanted to remain in the United States (this on his own initiative), but Subject stated that he would not defect at that time but that he was scheduled to come to the United States in the summer of 1962 and might then want to remain here. The same information he gave to [] without the latter asking for it.

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3. is being sent by us to cover the meet at Stanford University and to recontact Subject so as to feel him out about Subject's feelings regarding defection at this time.

No pressure of any sort will be exerted by he will merely ask how Subject now feels regarding defection.

4. will not actively participate in the operation at this time outside of writing a letter to Subject wishing the latter good luck and stating that would certainly have liked to come to California for the meet

It is possible that should this prove either necessary or advisable we will ask

5. In view of the fact that Subject has recently broken all world records in the broad jump and because of this he can be considered the fair-haired boy of Soviet athletics, it is quite improbable, although still within the realm of possibility, that he may wish to remain in the United States.

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ATTACHMENT B 17 JUL 62

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SUBJECT: []

1. As early as 1953 [] an ethnic Latvian and a then up and coming shot putter and discus thrower, attended a meet in Stockholm where he was contacted by some Latvian emigres who suggested that Subject remain in the West. Subject declined this offer on the basis of the fact that he was a married man and had a child at that time. Since 1953 Subject has been periodically coming to the West, until 1957 as an athlete and since that time once as a photographer and now as a coach. In 1956 during the Melbourne Olympics, Subject was contacted by Edgars LAIPENIEKS [] who at that time was a coach for the Chilean Olympic track team. At that time LAIPENIEKS made good friends with Subject, and Subject gave the former a movie film which allegedly portrayed life as it really was in the Soviet Union.

2. At this time LAIPENIEKS is in the United States and is one of the field and track coaches at the University of Colorado in Denver. He has agreed at our request to attend the meet in California and to recontact Subject. The purpose of this recontact as stated in the cover memorandum will be for further probing regarding vulnerabilities. Should it be proven that [] is indeed vulnerable and willing to talk with an American, [] will meet the individual for further assessment and possible recruitment.

3. Should Subject agree to cooperate with us, it is planned to give him an address in the West so that he can signal his attendance at future meets where he would be met. No internal communications are planned in this case. Although Subject's access to any really worthwhile information is in all probability highly limited, he does, nonetheless, presumably travel to various areas in the Soviet Union not accessible to Western travelers. Beyond his being able to observe and elicit, the only possible area on which this man can report in all probability would be the true conditions in the USSR.

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