

DISPATCH	CLASSIFICATION	PROCESSING		
	SECRET/KAFK	PROPOSED	ACTION	ACCOMPLISHED
TO	Chiefs, Certain Stations and Bases	X	MARKED FOR INDEXING	
INFO.			NO INDEXING REQUIRED	
FROM	Chiefs, KUWOLF and KUDESK		ONLY QUALIFIED HEADQUARTERS DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING	
SUBJECT	GENERAL -- Adverse Publicity SPECIFIC -- Book, "A Short Course in the Secret War" by Christopher Felix		ABSTRACT	
ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES	Book Dispatch #3123, dated 9 April 1962, same general subject.			
<p>1. <u>Summary</u> - This dispatch gives you advance notice of the forthcoming publication of subject book and provides guidance for any action you may wish to take, should the book provoke embarrassingly unfavorable reactions in your area.</p> <p>2. <u>Book and Publishers</u> - E. P. Dutton, New York, will be publishing subject book in a hard cover edition on or about 25 February 1963 and in May 1963 Secker and Warburg, London, will publish a British edition under the title "A Spy and His Master". At this writing we have no information pertaining to other foreign editions, serialization rights or the like. Due to the well established reputation of both the British and American publishers as purveyors of responsible literature we can expect considerable publicity which quite possibly could redound to the discredit of CIA and friendly intelligence services.</p> <p>3. <u>Contents</u> - Part I of this book is a curious mixture of fact, fancy and philosophy. Felix wanders through such fields as cover, case officer-agent relationship, recruitment and termination into lengthy essays on the meaning and place of CE, FI and CA type operations. Throughout these exercises the author is critical of CIA handling of such matters but his criticism is not confined to CIA. He criticizes also other branches of the U.S. Government and questions, basically, the character and qualifications of the American as an intelligence operator. Nor does he entirely spare the British, French and German Intelligence Services though he tends to find more praise for them than fault -- especially the British. To the best of our knowledge, the author does not disclose any classified information as such; on the other hand, he does discuss in detail certain CIA operations (and some operations of the above-mentioned friendly Services) and these discussions could result in adverse publicity in other media as well as causing embarrassment to the Agency and some of its personnel. For the most part Felix' comments and conclusions on such major matters as Cuba, Guatemala and similar operations seem to be derived from purely overt sources such as Tully's "CIA: The Inside Story" (see also reference).</p>				
<p>DESENSITIZED per CIA 43-20</p>		CROSS REFERENCE TO	DATE TYPED	DATE DISPATCHED
			15 Feb 63	1 MAR 1963
			DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER	
			BOOK DISPATCH NO. 3632	
			HEADQUARTERS FILE NUMBER	
		CLASSIFICATION	Can be destroyed	
		SECRET/KAFK	♦ 31 August 1963	

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASE **FILE IN** []
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In view of what we know of the author (see below), it is our belief the book he has written is most vulnerable because Felix has an axe to grind and he grinds it in a rather petulant, self-righteous manner. Wherever Felix uses fact or near-fact he depends on a not always accurate memory and older staff members will be able to spot and refute many of the allegations. On the other hand, he does "sterilize" certain events skillfully enough to impress a gullible public.

Part II of the book is devoted entirely to a lengthy description -- sometimes lurid -- of an Escape and Evasion operation the author conducted out of Hungary in 1946 and 1947. This episode got under way prior to the establishment of CIA and was part of a large-scale operation sponsored by the Department of State through an intelligence organization inherited from the War Department and known to us as GROUNDROG. The organization is now liquidated. The account reveals the author's high opinion of himself as a clandestine operator and his low opinion of most other practitioners of the art.

4. Author - The dust jacket of the U.S. edition of this book describes the author as follows: "...a former U.S. government official and veteran of many secret service operations...who has had many years of experience as an agent and as a case officer directing important U.S. intelligence operations..." Christopher Felix is a pseudonym for Identity. Born in San Francisco in 1920 he was educated at Stanford, worked briefly as a newspaper reporter and joined the Department of State in 1942. Felix served for the Department in Vladivostok, Ciudad Trujillo, Budapest, and Genoa. In 1948 he was detailed by the Department of State to duty with CIA where he dealt with the extensive operations involving East European refugees. In 1950 Felix returned to the Foreign Service and was assigned to Paris but at the same time he continued contact with the Agency rendering occasional operational services. Felix was "selected out" from the Foreign Service in 1955 and was subsequently engaged as an Agency contract agent, serving with a project in Paris until his dismissal in June 1958. Since that time Felix has been residing in Paris.

5. Guidance - As is usual in matters of this kind you will wish to avoid giving subject book any additional publicity or credence even by initiating any attacks against it. Neither will you wish to confirm or deny any statements or allegations made by the author. On the other hand as the necessity may arise and discretion dictate, you may wish to take the following steps:

a. if asked by the Ambassador, by Liaison or by trusted and influential contacts, disclose (confidentially and not for attribution) as much of the information given in paras 3 and 4 above as you deem advisable;

b. discourage -- wherever you can do it in a secure and strictly non-attributable way -- any form of distribution (translation, serialization, sales) of the book, as well as any reviews of it;

c. if the book should make a deep impact in your area and you consider counter-action necessary and practicable, cable your proposals to headquarters before implementing them.

6. Reporting. If you should receive significant inquiries about subject book or if the book should make a major impact in your area, advise HQ -- by cable or by dispatch, depending upon the urgency of the matter. Add to dispatches extra copies earmarked for Chief, KUWOLF, and Chief, KUDISK. Negative reports are not required.

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per CSN 43-26

1 Attachment: Under Separate Cover
True-identity listing

S E C R E T / K A P O K

SEPARATE COVER ATTACHMENT TO
BOOK DISPATCH NO. 3632

IDENTITY: James Goodrich McCarger

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WE/OPS	1	[REDACTED]	<u>1</u> Hqs

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7 Hqs

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