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SECRET

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\* SUMMARY FOR: DIR-473760CO792 PRINT DATE: 16 JUL 92 \*  
\* INDEX: A SHORT COURSE IN THE SECRET WAR \*  
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/ / SECRET FRP: . . . . .

STAFF

CONF: CE/EE/H-5 INFO: C/ORMS, CEDORECORD, LIMITO, MDSX, OOPD, FILE,  
C/CIC, CE/EE-3, CED/CIC-2, DC/CIC, DDO-2 (15/P)

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TOT: 010018Z JUL 92 DIRECTOR 473760

SECRET  
STAFF  
TO: IMMEDIATE   010018Z DIRECTOR 473760

FROM: LIMIT CE/EE/H INFO CE/EE, DC/CIC, CED/CIC

SLUGS: WNINTEL ZUHORN

SUBJECT: A MEDAL FROM THE HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT FOR THE FORMER  
CHIEF SPY

REF:   39999 (92 8789208)

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUESTED: FOLLOWING (BETWEEN TEAR LINES) IS FOR  
THE AMBASSADOR ON A READ AND BURN BASIS.

-----TEAR LINE-----

A. JAMES GOODRICH MCCARGAR, BORN 20 APRIL 1920 IN SAN  
FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, RECEIVED A B.A. FROM STANFORD UNIVERSITY IN  
1941. HE WAS EMPLOYED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AS OF 7 JANUARY  
1942 AND SERVED IN VLADIVOSTOK, MOSCOW AND CIUDAD TRUJILLO DURING THE  
WAR UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1944. HE WAS ON FURLOUGH FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF  
STATE FOR MILITARY SERVICE UNTIL FEBRUARY 1946. POSTWAR POSTS  
INCLUDED BUDAPEST (APRIL 1946-DECEMBER 1947 AS SECOND SECRETARY/CHIEF  
OF POLITICAL SECTION OF THE U.S. LEGATION), GENOA, PARIS AND  
WASHINGTON DURING THE PERIOD 1946-1950. HE RESIGNED FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN 1952.

B. MR. MCCARGAR WROTE A BOOK IN 1963 CRITICAL OF THIS AGENCY  
ENTITLED A SHORT COURSE IN THE SECRET WAR UNDER THE PEN NAME OF  
CHRISTOPHER FELIX. THE AGENCY DECLINED TO ASSIST MR. MCCARGAR IN  
AUGUST 1965 IN THE WRITING OF AN AUTHORITATIVE STUDY OF THE HUNGARIAN  
REVOLUTION WHICH WAS TO HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN 1966.

-----END TEAR LINE-----

2. JAMES GOODRICH MCCARGAR (JGM) IS BEARER OF A 7 VOLUME FILE  
ON MICROFICHE. FOLLOWING IS VERY BRIEF SYNOPSIS.

A. FROM JULY 1946 TO DECEMBER 1947, WHILE CHIEF OF THE  
POLITICAL SECTION OF THE US LEGATION AT BUDAPEST, JGM WAS ALSO THE  
POND OFFICER THERE. POND IS THE CODE NAME FOR A SECRET OPERATION  
CONDUCTED JOINTLY WITH STATE AND WAR DEPARTMENTS. 1 FSO IN EACH  
MISSION PROVIDED WITH SECRET FUNDS AND DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS TO AND  
FROM SECRET OFFICE IN STATE DEPARTMENT.

B. UNDER POND AUTHORITY JGM SAVED LIVES OF 60 TO 70 PERSONS IN  
DANGER OF ARREST AND/OR DEATH IN SOVIET OCCUPATION -- 5 OF WHOM, ON  
DIRECT ORDERS, HE PERSONALLY TOOK THROUGH RUSSIAN LINES TO VIENNA AT  
GREAT RISK.

C. AFTER LEAVING BUDAPEST, JGM RECEIVED POND MESSAGE  
"CONGRATULATIONS ON TREMENDOUS JOB. ASSURE YOU OUTSTANDING  
COMMENDATION WILL BE PLACED IN YOUR FOREIGN SERVICE RECORD..." THIS  
WAS DONE IN 1948, BUT, AS JGM ONLY LEARNED IN 1977, IT WAS "WITHHELD  
FROM HIS PERSONNEL FILE." (DESPITE 2 PRIVACY ACT REQUESTS, JGM STILL  
HAS NEVER SEEN IT.) A 1949 LETTER FROM JGM'S BUDAPEST CHIEF, SELDEN  
CHAPIN, REQUESTING RECOGNITION OF JGM'S WORK, WAS REBUFFED BY FP ON  
GROUNDS IT SHOULD BE RECOMMENDED BY THOSE WHO AUTHORIZED JGM'S WORK.

D. FROM 1948-1950 JGM WAS DETAILED TO OPC (OSTENSIBLY IN CIA,  
ACTUALLY WORKED UNDER AUTHORITY OF NSC AND POLICY DIRECTION AT  
STATE), AS CHIEF, DIVISION OF SOUTHEASTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS. FURTHER  
COMMENDATIONS... WHEN STATE REFUSED TO ALLOW JGM TO SERVE AS OPS  
CHIEF OF STATION, VIENNA, ON GROUNDS IMPROPER WORK ABROAD FOR CAREER  
FSOS, JGM CHOSE TO RETURN TO REGULAR FOREIGN SERVICE DUTY.

E. AS OFFICIAL RECORD JGM'S SECRET WORK 1946-1947 SUPPRESSED,  
HE WAS NOT PROMOTED AFTER JUNE 1947, DESPITE PUBLIC CRISES WITH

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2008

DOCUMENT DATE: 01 JUL 92  
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Continuation page for DIR-473760C0792

SOVIETS. AS MEMBERS OF STATE DEPT SELECTION BOARDS DID NOT HAVE APPROPRIATE SECURITY CLEARANCES, HIS BOARDS WERE NOT INFORMED, DESPITE THEIR QUERIES, OF NATURE OF HIS WORK 1946-1950. RESULT: WHEN IN CONFLICT WITH SUPERIOR, PARIS EMBASSY, 1951-1952, JGM WAS GRADED AMONG LOWEST 10 PERCENT. ON ADVICE FP JGM RESIGNED IN 1953.

F. JMG'S BOOK "A SHORT COURSE IN THE SECRET WAR," WRITTEN AS A NOVEL/SPY THRILLER, BEARS STRONG RESEMBLANCE TO THE POND OPERATION IN HUNGARY.

3. FILE: [ ] ALL NAMES. DECL OADR DRV  
HUM 4-82 >  
REL: C/CE/EE/H. CL BY [ ] AUTH: C/CE/EE/H  
END OF MESSAGE

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