

VIA: AIR
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

DISPATCH NO. EGMA-18806

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, MI
FROM : Chief of Base, Munich
SUBJECT: GENERAL— Operational/DIZTAG/CART,
SPECIFIC— Robert VALUCH

DATE: 18 JAN 1956
INFO: COS, Germany
VOB

REFERENCE: VFM-6427, 16 September 1955

1. On 16 November 1955, Robert von BERG of Free Europe Citizen's Service, and Josef NEJEDLIK, Chairman of the Czech Alliance in Munich, visited Jeremy K. Ficken's office, and stated that they had been told by ODBLICH *LAVINE, employee of the American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees and [RFE] applicant, that he had been informed by Frantisek PRUMIL, an employee of AFGR in Salzburg, that PRUMIL had information which he would like to relate to Jeremy K. Ficken's office concerning two or more CIS agents operating in the Salzburg-Munich area who were going to contact a [RFE] employee within the near future. (NOTE: Ficken's files indicate that Frantisek PRUMIL, born 28 October 1899, who was employed by PRSS, was suspected of having CIS connections. He was also described as having a poor reputation among CIS emigrants because of his dubious business transactions.)
2. On 17 November 1955, Ficken informed MDB of the foregoing. Since the matter allegedly involved [RFE] personnel, Ficken's office had a legitimate reason for meeting with PRUMIL. Therefore, MDB suggested that Ficken make the initial contact with PRUMIL, and informed him that we would defer our decision as to whether we should take over the case until after we had received further details.
3. Ficken made arrangements through von BERG to have PRUMIL meet Identity A at 1000 hours, 22 November 1955, in Freilassing, West Germany, at the Freilassing-Salzburg bus stop. The following is a list of the information related to Identity A by PRUMIL:
 - a. PRUMIL stated that he was presently employed by AFGR in Salzburg, and for the past seven years he had also worked for ODOFAL. In January 1955, he learned that Robert VALUCH was thinking of returning to the CSR, and that he had written to Antonin ZAPOTOCKY in this connection. PRUMIL reported the matter to ODOFAL, and he was instructed to maintain close contact with VALUCH.
 - b. In late spring of 1955, VALUCH was approached in Salzburg and recruited by a CIS agent. VALUCH reported the approach and recruitment to PRUMIL, and he was fully aware that the latter reported the matter to ODOFAL.

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- c. In May 1955, VALUCH received his first EEIs from "JAN", his CIS handling agent, during a meeting in Cafe Mozart in Vienna. VALUCH reported the details of the meeting to PREMIL, who acted as cutout between VALUCH and ODOPAL. ODOPAL supplied VALUCH with "doctored" information which was passed to the CIS handling agent.
- d. In July 1955, PREMIL submitted his last report to ODOPAL. Shortly thereafter, the ODOPAL case officer was transferred from Austria, and PREMIL has not been in contact with AIS since.
- e. VALUCH met with his CIS handling agent in Vienna during September, on 9 October and in early November 1955. During the November 1955 meeting, VALUCH was given the following EEIs:
- (1) Determine what type of installation U.S. forces have in the vicinity of Lofer, Austria. (NOTE: We fail to understand why VALUCH was given this EEI in November inasmuch as the last elements of the U.S. forces moved out of Austria on 18 October 1955.)
 - (2) Determine what type of organizations U.S. intelligence has set up which will continue to operate in Austria under Austrian sovereignty, and the names and identities of any persons assigned to these organizations.
 - (3) Report all data about (General) (fnu) VESEL and (Captain) (fnu) ~~WIDCYAIK~~. (NOTE: General VESEL is probably identical with (General) Miroslav VESEL.)
 - (4) Make a full report on (Dr) Josef KRAZEK regarding anything in connection with bad debts, association with women, and heavy drinking.
 - (5) All information concerning the White Legion.
 - (6) All personal data known to VALUCH about any police officials in Salzburg.
 - (7) Try to obtain employment with any U.S. organization in Austria or Germany.
 - (8) Report the names of all Czechoslovak refugees who are contemplating returning to the CSR.
 - (9) Attempt to make an appraisal of the effect that the publication, Ulas Demova, is having among Czechoslovak refugees in Austria.
- f. During previous meetings with the CIS handling agent, VALUCH submitted detailed reports on his contacts, associates, and friends living in

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the West with whom he has had periodic contact since his escape from the CSR in 1949. One of the persons reported on by VALUCH was Josef MRAZEK, who apparently was a close associate of VALUCH's in Slovakia. PREMIL stated that he recalled VALUCH had reported to the CIS that he, VALUCH, and MRAZEK were involved in dealing with sugar in the CSR shortly after World War II.

- g. PREMIL said that he had not been contacted since July 1955 by ODOPAL, and in view of the CIS's interest in MRAZEK, he thought Ficken's office should be informed.
- h. VALUCH allegedly had an appointment to meet his CIS handling agent in Vienna on 3 December 1955, and PREMIL wanted to know whether Ficken's office had any instructions for VALUCH.
4. Identity A arranged another meeting with PREMIL for 1000 hours, 28 November 1955 in Freilassing. PREMIL was informed that, because of the time Identity A may meet him at the next meeting, however, the third person would introduce himself as Mr. (Identity A). Identity A made these meeting arrangements so that IOB could step in and take over the case, if we desired.
5. In view of the information contained in reference, IOB suggested that Ficken report the matter to ODOPAL. After Ficken's meeting with ODOPAL, he reported they were very interested in the case despite VALUCH's uncavory reputation, and that they planned to meet PREMIL in Austria on 28 November.
6. On 14 December 1955, MRAZEK reported to Ficken that, as he was on the street in front of his office at 1500 hours, 13 December 1955, a taxi pulled up along side of him and someone in the back seat of the taxi called to him. Upon closer examination, he discovered the person was indeed VALUCH, an old acquaintance from Czechoslovakia. MRAZEK and VALUCH talked briefly, and the former invited the latter to his home. During the latter part of VALUCH's visit, they discussed generalities. When PREMIL reported that he planned to visit Vienna within the near future, VALUCH indicated that he not to do so because he, VALUCH, was aware that the StB was interested in MRAZEK. VALUCH then confessed to MRAZEK that he had been working for the StB for the past five months. However, he emphasized that he had been doing so with the knowledge and approval of the AJS. VALUCH said that he was being paid by the StB, and that (fnr) LIETAVEC, an old acquaintance who is assigned to the "Political Intelligence Section of the GEMA", was directing him through a cutout. VALUCH showed MRAZEK a slip of paper with the following questions written in Slovak which were allegedly from the StB:
 - a. What do you know about MRAZEK, SINGER and OBERA? (NOTE: (fnr) OBERA is probably identical with Jan OBERA, born 22 April 1921 in Prešov, CSR.)
 - b. Do you have any letters from MRAZEK?

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- c. What do you know about ^{Yusuf} NIZHANSKY (NOTE: Probably identical with ~~LEHLE~~ ~~WITZANSKY~~.)
- d. What contacts do you have in official agencies and in refugee circles?

VALUCH asked HRAZEK for directions to Rosenheimerstrasse 13 where he was to meet with his U.S. case officer during that evening. (NOTE: On 13 December 1955, Ficken learned from ODOPAL that they had requested VALUCH to come to Munich. When VALUCH appeared at the meeting at Rosenheimerstr. 13 at 2000 hours, 13 December 1955, he was accompanied by a person whose general physical description fitted HRAZEK.) When VALUCH was ready to depart, he remarked that two men may visit HRAZEK on 14 December 1955. (NOTE: VALUCH did not indicate whether the two men in question were ODOPAL or CIS agents.)

7. In addition to Paragraph 6 above, HRAZEK reported to Ficken that on or about 2 November 1955, he received a letter from a distant relative, who is living in Austria. The relative informed HRAZEK that he had heard that HRAZEK's wife, who is still in Czechoslovakia, was recently visited by two men wearing civilian clothes, who asked her to write to HRAZEK, and inform him that he had been amnestied and that he should return to CIA. HRAZEK's wife allegedly refused to comply with the request. HRAZEK said his relative did not indicate how he had obtained this information.
8. On 14 December 1955, Ficken informed ODOPAL of the report he had received from HRAZEK, and that evening, ODOPAL placed a surveillance on HRAZEK's residence. According to ODOPAL's report to Ficken, HRAZEK left his residence at 1930 hours, and went to Daiserstrasse 44, Entrance C, where he apparently stayed overnight - the surveillance was discontinued at 0300 hours, 15 December 1955. (NOTE: During the 14 December 1955 interview, HRAZEK told Ficken that he planned to remain home until 2000 hours when he would go to a friend's home to spend the night.) At 2030 hours, a man appeared in front of the building where HRAZEK resides, and rang the latter's doorbell. When the person departed, he was followed to Daiserstrasse 47, Munich, Waidtrudering. Persons listed as residing at this address are Heinrich ~~TERRELL~~ and Johann ~~BLOEMER~~, who, according to ~~OSWALD~~, is an SPD member. (NOTE: MOB files contain no traces on ~~OSWALD~~ or ~~BLOEMER~~.)
- * ADDRESS - V
G. E. R. M. C.
9. At 1530 hours, 28 December 1955, VALUCH recontacted HRAZEK at the latter's apartment. Before entering HRAZEK's room, VALUCH asked if HRAZEK were alone. As VALUCH entered, he removed a Browning 7.35 mm nickel-plated, pearl or ivory handled pistol from his pocket and placed it on the table. He then removed his coat and hat and placed his hat over the pistol.
10. VALUCH's first comment to HRAZEK was that he desired to make it perfectly clear to HRAZEK that both the family of HRAZEK and VALUCH were in danger. Therefore, VALUCH wanted to know if information regarding their previous

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contact had been reported to anyone else by BRAZEK. BRAZEK admitted that he had mentioned their first contact, however, he asserted that he did not mention VALUCH's name.

11. VALUCH told BRAZEK that he had been in Vienna since their last meeting, and that he had met with (Dr) (fm) KRUZLIJAK (NOTE: Probably identical with Dr Enrico KRUZLIJAK), who gave VALUCH the impression that he, KRUZLIJAK, "knew something regarding the actions of BRAZEK." VALUCH also remarked that he had reported to the CIS that BRAZEK had refused to cooperate, was elderly, etc; however, the CIS instructed him to get something of value from [SAFE] through BRAZEK.
12. VALUCH informed BRAZEK that he would remain in weekly contact with him, and he demanded that BRAZEK swear that under no circumstances would BRAZEK reveal VALUCH's name to anyone. VALUCH reiterated that the Americans were aware that he was in contact with BRAZEK, and remarked that he, VALUCH, was scheduled to meet with Mr. HORTON (NOTE: Presumably an ODOPAL agent), whom he described as a tall, red-headed American, at 1900 hours, 28 December 1955, in the park in front of Hotel Regina in Munich. VALUCH also showed BRAZEK a small slip of paper which allegedly contained the time, date, and place of his meetings with his American case officer.
13. VALUCH stated that to date he and BRAZEK had been discussing trivialities, but from now on they would be working towards the accomplishment of the broadcasting of messages, programs, and reports furnished BRAZEK by VALUCH for transmission through [SAFE] facilities. (NOTE: This point is not clear and BRAZEK did not elaborate.) VALUCH also stated that it was possible that BRAZEK would be contacted within the next two weeks by the Americans.
14. BRAZEK informed Eicken that it was his impression that the reason for VALUCH's second contact with him was to ascertain whether BRAZEK had furnished his name to anyone. BRAZEK commented that, during the 14 December meeting with VALUCH, the latter informed him that he was a dealer in textiles, and showed BRAZEK an import duty receipt issued in Fuchssing. The receipt was for 100 schillings, and represented duty paid on a nylon shirt purchased in Germany. Also during VALUCH's first visit, he accompanied BRAZEK to a haberdashery in Munich, and VALUCH purchased a pair of rather expensive nylon socks. BRAZEK noted the socks were not similar in type or quality to those worn by VALUCH. Based on this observation, it was BRAZEK's opinion that VALUCH purchased items of this nature in Germany and paid duty upon re-entering Austria in order to prove to the SDG contact that he has been in Germany. (COMMENT: We fail to understand why it would be necessary for VALUCH to do this since his document was stamped when he crossed the border, and would serve as proof that he had been in Germany.)

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15. Ficken is working closely with ODOPAL on the case, and will keep MOB apprised of the developments. We shall keep Headquarters informed accordingly.

Approved: []

Attachment
Identity A - Under Separate Cover

Distribution

- 1 - EE w/3 Atts. S/C (DIRECT)
- 3 - COS, Germany w/3 Atts. S/C
- 2 - VO w/3 Atts. S/C
- 2 - IOR w/2 Atts.

18 January 1956 pks

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