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17 December 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with AEGROP/1

1. Accompanied by GAMBARO/1 the undersigned proceeded to Detroit on 9 December 1954 in order to recontact AEGROP/1 for the purpose of having him write the overt texts of several letters which are to be used for S/W communications with AEGOB/4. — RUPNERS

2. As per prior arrangements, upon arrival the undersigned and GAMBARO/1 were met at the Detroit Airport by [] chief of [] of OO. Because of the involved transportation facilities between Detroit and Bay City, Michigan, GAMBARO/1 and the undersigned were driven to Bay City [] in his personal automobile. It had previously been arranged that [] would refer to the undersigned as [] and to GAMBARO/1 as Bruno Peters while [] himself was introduced to GAMBARO/1 in his true name because that is the name circumstances have forced him to use in his previous dealings with AEGROP/1. AEGROP/1 and his wife knew GAMBARO/1 by true name in Latvia during and subsequent to World War II. AEGROP/1 was expecting the arrival of at least GAMBARO/1 because he had been notified by telegram to expect a visitor during that particular evening.

3. Upon arrival at AEGROP/1's residence all three individuals and AEGROP/1 retired to the living room where comparative privacy prevailed. Only AEGROP/1's wife was at home during the entire interview.

4. The undersigned brought out the fact that on the previous visit AEGROP/1 had stated that his only interest in bringing his communication with AEGOB/4 to the attention of the authorities was that this channel of communications with patriotic Latvians in their own country be turned over to the U. S. authorities who may be able to utilize it beneficially in the fight against communism. AEGROP/1 reaffirmed this intention, whereupon the undersigned stated that he would be appreciative if AEGROP/1 would do the following:

- a. Write three letters to AEGOB/4 in which the alias GARAIS (the tall one) is mentioned. (This is the name that is commonly used by GAMBARO/2, a name which AEGOB/4 would recognize, thereby establishing GAMBARO/2's bona fide to a great degree.)

AEGROP/1 is to write a letter to his live letter drop in Germany, AEGROP/2, instructing her to transmit all

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SECRET

SECRET

mail received from AECROB/4 to a new address in Detroit (c/o R. G. Sublitz, Jr., 19435 Pierson Street, Detroit 19, Michigan). AECROP/1 is to say in his letter to AECROP/2 that he enclosed an international money order for \$5.00 to cover any expenses she has as a result of forwarding such mail.

5. The original intent was to have AECROP/1 notify AECROP/2 that he had moved to Detroit proper and has a new address and that she should therefore send all mail to him to that new address. When this was proposed to AECROP/1, he indicated that this would not be possible as his son, as well as AECROP/2's son, correspond with each other, having developed rather close ties because both were schoolmates in Germany. Moreover, AECROP/2 periodically writes some personal letters to AECROP/1 and his wife, which should also come directly to them. AECROP/1 thereby inferred that if he were to inform AECROP/2 of a fictitious move, he would need to backstop this entire story with the other family members who would then need to continue the personal correspondence with AECROP/2 by devising many fictitious circumstances, such as the son changing schools, a different job for AECROP/2, etc. The undersigned agreed that this was not desirable nor practical, and consequently, the idea of informing AECROP/2 to send the letters from Latvia to a different address could well be explained as a further security precaution because after all, as far as she is concerned, AECROP/1's close relatives in Latvia are involved. A letter to that effect was prepared by the undersigned and copied by AECROP/1. [] was requested to mail this letter in Detroit, adding a \$5.00 money order and making a photostat copy of it, and to transmit this copy to this Branch.

6. With what appeared to be no reservation whatever AECROP/1 set about the task of composing the afore-mentioned letters in which he was helped by CAMBARO/1 and the undersigned. Upon completion of this task, the undersigned took two photographs of AECROP/1 (which are attached hereto) and waited while CAMBARO/1 asked AECROP/1 some questions regarding certain individuals in AECROP/1's former native area, Cesis. Although AECROP/1 offered all information that he possessed quite freely, the facts obtained were rather meager.

7. It must be noted that having used the German language in his prior conversation with AECROP/1, the undersigned continued to use this language and did not indicate in any way that he actually understood Latvian. At times when some points needed refinement, AECROP/1 would refer to CAMBARO/1 in Latvian which he appeared to be fully confident that the undersigned could not understand, but which in fact the undersigned understood fully.

8. Although CAMBARO/1 had not seen AECROP/1 or his wife in 11 years (they did correspond for a while when CAMBARO/1 was in Sweden prior to 1950), the "reunion" was hardly more exciting nor noticeable than if they had not seen each other for several months. This was

SECRET

SECRET

primarily due to CAMBARO/1's composure and businesslike manner, which is most commendable as had this "reunion" resulted in a great deal of fuss, a lot of valuable time would have been lost in discussing old times.

9. AECROP/1 was informed that CAMBARO/1 will mail an address to him which he is to use when the need arises to communicate with us. He was advised that such need may arise as a result of some misunderstanding on the part of AECROP/2 who may continue to send letters to AECROP/1 instead of the new address.

10. The undersigned returned to Washington independently while CAMBARO/1 remained in Detroit to contact a friend of his who it is rumored possesses some information regarding persons in Latvia. His report of the interview with AECROP/1 as well as with the other individual, ARTURS NEPARTS, is attached hereto.

where?

[Acting Deputy Chief, SR/2]

[] lsb

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