

**SECRET**

4 May 1965

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Discussion with Aleksei KURGVEL About Any Information  
He Might Have on the Ado BIRK Case

1. On 29 April 1965, in an informal note to [redacted], Chief, CI/R&A, I mentioned that subject might have information concerning the case of Ado BIRK et. al. [redacted] suggested that the appropriate question be put to subject and that he be asked to write up his answer.
2. Therefore I contacted subject's immediate supervisor, [redacted] of SR (ext. 6587) and, at her request, explained the general nature of my interest to [redacted], the SR case officer. I explained that our interest is in a historical matter, i. e., a case of the 1920's and we hoped that subject might remember some of the details. [redacted] and [redacted] suggested that subject phone me and that I state my request directly to him. The case officer had no objection to subject's writing out his answer on a time-available basis.
3. Shortly after this talk, subject telephoned me and, after exchanging the normal pleasantries, I asked him if he recalled some of the sensational Soviet operations cases which made the headlines in the late 1920's and early 1930's. Subject said that he did indeed remember the cases of that day, including the famed "Trust" case as well as the Ado Birk, Kursk and Opperput matter. He promised to write up whatever he recalls and also to provide a listing of any overt materials which he knows as containing information about these matters.
4. For personal reasons subject and his family have resided in New York City for the past ten years or more and he has been and still commutes to see his wife as often as practical (i. e., about every other week). In posing my request, subject explained that he would have to look through his personal materials of that period at home (i. e., in New York City). He thinks that among papers of that vintage, he might have

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

some items of pertinence to the matter at hand. In particular, he thought that he had some materials concerning Kursk. In this connection, he mentioned that he had just returned from New York City and would not be going up until the weekend of May 14-16. I said that it would be fine if he could check his materials at that time.

5. I thanked subject for his interest and suggested that, if he had any questions as he wrote up his knowledge, he call me either directly or through E J, whichever she prefers. Subject wanted to know if there was any deadline or urgency and I told him that his supervisor had agreed to his doing this on a time-available basis and that there is no particular urgency.

□      □

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

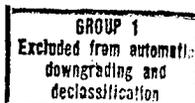
4 May 1965

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: Discussion with Aleksei KURGVEL About Any Information He Might Have on the Ado BIRK Case**

1. On 29 April 1965, in an informal note to [redacted], Chief, CI/R&A, I mentioned that subject might have information concerning the case of Ado BIRK et. al. [redacted] suggested that the appropriate question be put to subject and that he be asked to write up his answer.
2. Therefore I contacted subject's immediate supervisor, [redacted] of SR (ext. 6587) and, at her request, explained the general nature of my interest to [redacted], the SR case officer. I explained that our interest is in a historical matter, i. e., a case of the 1920's and we hoped that subject might remember some of the details. [redacted] and [redacted] suggested that subject phone me and that I state my request directly to him. The case officer had no objection to subject's writing out his answer on a time-available basis.
3. Shortly after this talk, subject telephoned me and, after exchanging the normal pleasantries, I asked him if he recalled some of the sensational Soviet operations cases which made the headlines in the late 1920's and early 1930's. Subject said that he did indeed remember the cases of that day, including the famed "Trust" case as well as the Ado Birk, Kursk and Opperput matter. He promised to write up whatever he recalls and also to provide a listing of any overt materials which he knows as containing information about these matters.
4. For personal reasons subject and his family have resided in New York City for the past ten years or more and he has been and still commutes to see his wife as often as practical (i. e., about every other week). In posing my request, subject explained that he would have to look through his personal materials of that period at home (i. e., in New York City). He thinks that among papers of that vintage, he might have

**SECRET**



**SECRET**

some items of pertinence to the matter at hand. In particular, he thought that he had some materials concerning Kursk. In this connection, he mentioned that he had just returned from New York City and would not be going up until the weekend of May 14-16. I said that it would be fine if he could check his materials at that time.

5. I thanked subject for his interest and suggested that, if he had any questions as he wrote up his knowledge, he call me either directly or through [redacted], whichever she prefers. Subject wanted to know if there was any deadline or urgency and I told him that his supervisor had agreed to his doing this on a time-available basis and that there is no particular urgency.

[redacted] [redacted]

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

4 May 1965

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: Discussion with Aleksei KURGVEL About Any Information He Might Have on the Ado BIRK Case**

1. On 29 April 1965, in an informal note to [redacted], Chief, CI/R&A, I mentioned that subject might have information concerning the case of Ado BIRK et. al. [redacted] suggested that the appropriate question be put to subject and that he be asked to write up his answer.

2. Therefore I contacted subject's immediate supervisor, [redacted] of SR (ext. 6587) and, at her request, explained the general nature of my interest to [redacted], the SR case officer. I explained that our interest is in a historical matter, i. e., a case of the 1920's and we hoped that subject might remember some of the details. [redacted] and [redacted] suggested that subject phone me and that I state my request directly to him. The case officer had no objection to subject's writing out his answer on a time-available basis.

3. Shortly after this talk, subject telephoned me and, after exchanging the normal pleasantries, I asked him if he recalled some of the sensational Soviet operations cases which made the headlines in the late 1920's and early 1930's. Subject said that he did indeed remember the cases of that day, including the famed "Trust" case as well as the Ado Birk, Kursk and Opperput matter. He promised to write up whatever he recalls and also to provide a listing of any overt materials which he knows as containing information about these matters.

4. For personal reasons subject and his family have resided in New York City for the past ten years or more and he has been and still commutes to see his wife as often as practical (i. e., about every other week). In posing my request, subject explained that he would have to look through his personal materials of that period at home (i. e., in New York City). He thinks that among papers of that vintage, he might have

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

some items of pertinence to the matter at hand. In particular, he thought that he had some materials concerning Kursk. In this connection, he mentioned that he had just returned from New York City and would not be going up until the weekend of May 14-16. I said that it would be fine if he could check his materials at that time.

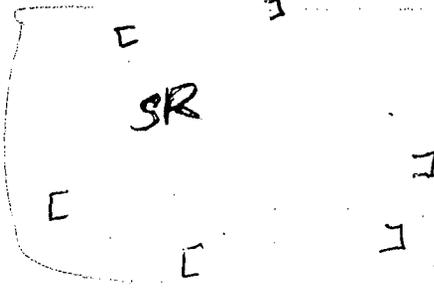
5. I thanked subject for his interest and suggested that, if he had any questions as he wrote up his knowledge, he call me either directly or through [redacted], whichever she prefers. Subject wanted to know if there was any deadline or urgency and I told him that his supervisor had agreed to his doing this on a time-available basis and that there is no particular urgency.

[redacted]

[redacted]

**SECRET**

NAME KURGUEL, Aleksei		SECRET (When Filled In)		C NO. 11300
AKA GIORDANO, Mario K. (was JG - 3721)		SO NO. 50562		
DATE OF BIRTH 13 Sept 04	PLACE OF BIRTH Kuressaare, Estonia	DIVISION SO/NOB		
NAME OF PROJECT AEROOT AELUNG [		]		
RECORD OF ACTIONS				
DATE OF APPROVALS				DATE OF OTHER
POA	PSA	PPA	CNC	DISAPPROVAL
OA	CSA	PA		TERMINATION
COMMENTS				TO RI ARCHIVES
FORM NO. 697 1 JUN 55	RECORD CARD		(20)	SECRET



6587

P.S.  
30 April 65  
This AM I got the  
OA file from archives.  
Although the OA file shows  
no recent activity, he is  
still being used and should  
have an active OS file because  
he has a CSA.

Why not  
give him the  
question & let him  
write up his  
answers?

OA bill was returned  
on 3 May 65.

[ ]

Attached is the CI/OA card on Aleksei KURGVEL, an Estonian major and member of Estonian military intelligence before WW II. During the war he worked for the Abwehr and came to KUBARK/OPC in ca 1951. He is still with us and now works for the DODS shop that used to be SR/DOB.

I have known him since 1949 and recall that he has a keen memory. He should know details of the Ado BIRK, et. al. case. As I recall he was never fully debriefed.

[ ]