

SECRET 0-148

D/B-59254

From
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
To

JAN 10 1956

BY COURIER SERVICE

Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am attaching hereto
communications which may be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

FOR COORDINATION WITH FBI

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy
- (2)(C) Methods/Sources
- (2)(G) Foreign Relations

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Date: 2005

REF - 59754

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT SAN FRANCISCO

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE 12/15,16,19/55	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/15,16,19/55	REPORT MADE BY HENRY D. GRUSH glp
TITLE THEODORE TIHOVICH MINENKO, aka.		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SECRET			
<p>ROBERT BOOTH, United States citizen, employed GEORGE MINENKO in publishing venture in Japan. GEORGE MINENKO brother of THEODORE TIHOVICH MINENKO, according to records of American Embassy, Tokyo. BOOTH dismissed GEORGE MINENKO from his organization when MINENKO refused to solicit advertising for one of BOOTH's publications which was anti-Communist and had published an article by one Colonel MASANOBU TSUJI, and stated he would not support a magazine whose policies were contrary to "peace" and that he would do his utmost to obstruct the progress of a magazine which supported "war mongers and enemies of the people". BOOTH claimed he later learned GEORGE MINENKO was a Soviet citizen.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">P</p> <p><u>DETAILS</u></p> <p>Records of the American Embassy, Tokyo, Japan, disclosed the following information concerning GEORGE MINENKO, a Soviet Russian resident in Japan. Information previously received from the Embassy, indicated that GEORGE MINENKO is a brother of THEODORE MINENKO.</p>			
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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1947

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One ROBERT BOOTH, a United States citizen, publisher and radio entertainer, in a statement on application for passport dated August 1, 1954, which he submitted to the American Embassy at Tokyo, indicated that in 1950, he had employed GEORGE MINENKO, a Soviet Russian, among others to work for him in publishing a magazine which was to be an introduction to Japan.

MINENKO spoke good English and Japanese and had been formerly employed by the United States Army by the War Crime Trials, as an interpreter. He was later employed with the A. P. Pattison Company. BOOTH claimed that at the time he hired MINENKO he was unaware that the latter had a Soviet passport. BOOTH stated that later, in December, 1952, he discovered that MINENKO held a Soviet passport and intended to go to Russia. As of the time BOOTH learned of this, he stated that he also heard that MINENKO was an avid Communist who often served in various official capacities in the local Russian Communist cell. Despite his political background, MINENKO did diligent work for BOOTH. In time, however, BOOTH became involved in heated arguments with MINENKO over current events. Among other things, BOOTH believed that Japan must be armed and that the Communist Party must be stamped out and while in the budding stage. MINENKO disagreed with this.

In late 1951, BOOTH prepared and published the first edition of "View", a pictorial magazine which he intended to use as rebuttal to the Communist literature pouring into Japan at that time. In an early issue of the magazine he carried an article by Colonel MASANOBU TSUJI, not because he agreed with TSUJI's policies, but because he felt TSUJI had been and would be a political influence in Japan. It was necessary to make a concerted effort to obtain advertising for the new publication. BOOTH outlined the new advertising plan and policy of the magazine to MINENKO who had been instrumental in gathering many

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advertisements for him before. For the following three weeks the advertising staff conducted something similar to a "sit-down strike". When BOOTH called MINENKO in to discuss the latter's refusal to sell advertising for "View", MINENKO stated among other things that he would not sell advertising for a magazine whose policies were contrary to that of "peace" and demanded that the magazine carry only articles of cultural value. BOOTH, realizing that MINENKO's political views were not in agreement with his or the magazine's, asked MINENKO to leave the company, which he did. In a final argument MINENKO said he would do his utmost to obstruct the progress of any magazine which supported "war mongers and enemies of the people".

On leaving BOOTH's organization, GEORGE MINENKO took with him another of BOOTH's employees, one ROBERT GILLESPIE, and with him established an advertising agency known as Gilmin Service. From December, 1952 to February, 1954, BOOTH had no further contact with GEORGE MINENKO.

~~MINENKO~~
In January, 1953, GEORGE MINENKO's two brothers, PETER and ANDREW MINENKO, whom BOOTH had hired earlier, were still working for him. At that time a younger brother, name unrecalled, was preparing papers for a student visa to the United States, which he later received, and his older brother PETER came to BOOTH for assistance with the documents. It was at this time that BOOTH discovered that GEORGE MINENKO held a Soviet passport, after which BOOTH made an effort to acquire more detailed information concerning the MINENKO family and the older brother GEORGE and the latter's relationship with the Soviet Club in Tokyo. BOOTH learned that while GEORGE MINENKO was very active with the Russian Club, he was also quite religious or at least a regular attendant at the St. Nikolai Church at night for choir practice.

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