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Memo for the Record

2 November 53

CONVERSATION WITH UTILITY ON THE UJ DREADFUL CASE

1. In discussing the current ~~set~~-up of agents in the ODR, UTILITY indicated his intention of emphasizing with the GJ leaders the importance of eliminating from the lower echelons, i.e., FILIALE, individuals whose near relatives live under Soviet control. This led to a long discussion of the security of the organization. I urged UTILITY to consider a survey to determine how many individuals in ZIPPER have:

- a. Ever lived in areas under Soviet control since 1945;
- b. Today have near relatives in areas under Soviet control;
- c. ~~Those who have~~ lived in areas under Soviet domination and admit having been in direct Soviet custody at any time.

2. UTILITY then went on to discuss the difficulties that arise out of the organization's illegal status; and the security problems that arise out of his lack of legal status vis-a-vis his subordinates. He feels that he has little or no recourse to legal measures to enforce security in the organization under the present situation.

3. I then brought up the subject of UJ DREADFUL noting that he had lived in an area under Soviet domination, today had immediate family members living in Czech, ^{and} admitted to having spent several months under technical interrogation by the Soviets. I further told him that I had discussed the case with one of my senior colleagues in Washington who is both an experienced CE operator and a highly qualified LC FLUTTER technician.

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This friend, I stated, had carefully reviewed the original results of the UJ DREADFUL tests and expressed the opinion that it was one of the most impressive and positive reactions that he had seen in his experience in this field.

4. HARTWIG, who was present, then brought up the possibility discussed earlier, that UJ DREADFUL could be encouraged to emigrate and thus be isolated. I pointed out the difficulty of obtaining security clearance to any country under the present circumstances. UTILITY admitted that the UJ DREADFUL case was by no means closed and agreed that sooner or later the man would make a mistake, if he were, in fact, a Russian agent. Then, thinking out loud, UTILITY injected that perhaps the best move would be to give UJ DREADFUL some "special ^{task} pass." I pointed out that at this time UJ DREADFUL and the organization he heads are not separate problems and a decision to ~~put him on ice~~ put him on ice carried with it a decision to completely liquidate his organization.

5. It is clear that UTILITY is under great stress as a result of the current wave of arrests in the Eastern Zone. Under this circumstance it is conceivable that he might take a more positive attitude on the UJ DREADFUL case and carry out some step that might in fact interfere with our own conduct of an investigation. The views of 25.0 and interested staff members are requested.