

HEADQUARTERS
CO. B, 257th Regt.
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES (Prov)
APO 534 - U. S. Army

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Case #168
9 August 1944

TO: Captain L. E. Kubler,
Security Officer

SUBJECT: TOTH, Iere - investigation of ~~Baro No. 549~~
Thomas - ~~Drinking~~

1. As directed by you the following investigation has been completed on the above Subject who is being considered for employment with the Hungarian section of the Central European Desk, this headquarters.

The following intelligence agencies have been contacted with negative results.

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION (American)

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS (American)

FORCE 399 SECURITY (British)

Force 315 Security (British)

SERVAZIO INFORMAZIONE MILITARIO (Italian)

REGIA DE QUESTURA (Italian)

2. Information obtained from the following agencies shall be listed below.

SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE LIAISON OFFICER - This office had no record on a Subject of the exact above name, however they did have listed under their files on Jugoslavs under the name TOT or Dr. TOTH a report from a British intelligence unit in 1942 to the effect that TOT or Dr. TOTH was a member of the Serbo-Croatian Peasant Party and the SS Yugoslav MP. The card had an indication that this TOT or TOTH is a Communist. We are informed that Subject's name is very common both in Jugoslavia and Hungary and there would be no way of telling whether they are one and the same, however information taken from the employment application would not indicate that they are the same and this agency was of the opinion that their Subject is a Yugoslav and not the same as our Hungarian Subject.

CAPTAIN EVANS - NO. 1. Intelligence Unit This British agency was formerly called the ISLD and is given as the present employer of the Subject. It is our understanding that he is to be released from that agency for employment with us. We contacted Captain Evans who informed us that he actually had no

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no dossier regarding the Subject but would be glad to show us any available information. Captain Evans had a letter on file from one of their London intelligence agencies regarding a Subject of the same name. We shall quote this letter below.

1. London has record of a Hungarian journalist named Imre TOTH who was reported in February 1942 to be a German spy at Budapest. He wrote for the Nazi journal "A Nap".
2. Description - age about 35. Height 170 cm. Medium build. Dark Brown curly hair. Brown complexion. Wears black rimmed glasses.
3. Even though you have decided not to employ Imre TOTH we should be most interested to know whether you consider him to be the same gentleman.

We questioned Captain Evans as to what his reply had been to this letter and he replied that it was negative as he did not believe this Subject to be the same as shown in the above letter. He did not offer to exhibit the reply however. We questioned Captain Evans as to his reasons for thinking they were/one and the same and he seemed to have formed his opinion because of the physical description differences. He stated that our subject in no way resembled the description shown above with the exception of the SAME age, and in view of the fact that their experience has been to have many contacts with this particular name in both Yugoslav and Hungarian circles. Captain Evans stated that he had brought this man back to Bari from Rome about one month ago, and though somewhat vague on the Subject, it was obvious that Captain Evans intended to use the Subject on intelligence operations. He stated that now, they have found that their needs require an actual hungarian radio operator, which the Subject is not. Captain Evans also indicated that the Subject has been somewhat of an administrative problem in that he is quite temperamental, seems to require a great deal of attention. He has been disgruntled with his living conditions and on one occasion was asked to leave one of the British NAAFI clubs because he was not in uniform and had become quite incensed with the treatment and complained thereof to Capt. Evans. We questioned Capt. Evans as to what vet had been made on the Subject in Rome by their agency and he indicated that it had been extremely limited. It actually consisted of their man talking to the Hungarian minister APOR and to ARADI. We were somewhat disturbed to hear that Capt. Evans had talked with ARADI who is actually in our employ, so we questioned him directly as to where he had talked with Aradi i.e. in Rome or Bari, and then Captain Evans stated he had never actually talked with ARADI but indicated that their man in Rome had done so. He indicated that ARADI is a friend of many years standing with the Subject, and as stated previously, all information regarding Subject had come from either APOR or ARADI. Captain Evans states that the Subject is definitely not being released to us because he is a problem in Security, and gives as his reason, that Subject is merely not adapted to their needs and therefore they have no objection to his employment with our organization.

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Captain Evans looked over our employment application on the Subject and volunteered the information that Subject is Not married as stated on his application, but is living on a common-law basis in Rome with a blond woman of German descent.

SUMMARY: From the security point of view nothing definitely derogatory was learned regarding this Subject. Our only actually positive information was obtained from Captain Evans, the present employer, as other sources checked could not be expected to have any file in view of the fact that Subject has only been in Bari for about one month, and during this period has been confined to activities with the British No. 1. I. U. However, it is a known fact that Hungarian agents are most difficult to obtain in this area, and there is great question in this investigator's mind as to whether the British would have released him had their only problem been that Subject is temperamental and somewhat difficult to handle. It is also strongly urged that Major Chapin be apprized of the fact that ARADI has evidently had considerable contact with the British and could possibly be working for the British as well as this organization. In view of the foregoing circumstances it is suggested that this subject, if employed, should be handled with the utmost of care from the security viewpoint. He should be given access to no classified information not concerned with one of his own projects, and if possible should be billeted away from and have no entry to this headquarters. 11


P. D. Daley

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