

February 24, 1958

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH []

SUBJECT: Zsolt Aradi

This morning I phoned [] as the result of Mr. Gordon Stewart's memo of Feb. 21, wherein he informed us that Aradi had stated [to Stewart] that he was thinking of going to Paris as a functionary of the CDUCE in that city.

I told [] that there was an ancient history of Aradi's connections with RFE back in 1953. He had come to them from VOA and after everything had all but been signed on the dotted line, RFE discovered [from VOA, or from Security, or both] that both VOA and other unspecified friends [OSS, in fact] had disapproved Aradi's security clearance some years previously. RFE was thereupon put in the embarrassing position of having to dream up a variety of implausible reasons why they should not hire Aradi. This resulted in a certain amount of bad blood, not unaturally.

[] seemed to think Aradi was one of several people being considered for various CDUCE activities. He was inclined to treat the whole thing rather casually, but I impressed on him that in the present climate of attack by Fulton Lewis it would be most unfortunate if the CDUCE found itself caught on the same ropes as RFE had been, and this would simply add one more complaint about another part of the FEC complex.

I urged [] to check this one out carefully with RFE and told him that no matter what documents he produced from the radio, he should bear in mind that there was virtually no possibility that Aradi could ever be cleared, and that therefore it would be most imprudent to let him get ~~maneuvered~~ into a position where such clearance would be required. [] said he would get in touch with RFE, whether the papers were in New York or Munich.

Finally I told [] that there were allegations in the record [not proven, so far as I could tell from the file] that Aradi was light fingered and that he was a homosexual.

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008