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HR70-14

18 November 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with [redacted]

[redacted]

2. While [redacted] trip was originally set up in the broad context of [redacted] publications in general, the Dr. Zhivago book has become an important feature.

[redacted] saw Feltrinelli in Milan some time in late October. The purpose of seeing him was to inquire about obtaining rights for the book [redacted]

[redacted] Feltrinelli took the position that he would not give rights to a publisher's agent, but he informed [redacted] that if he should receive requests from specific [redacted] publishers, he would probably go along.

3. Feltrinelli, [redacted], may decide to give rights in one of two ways, and it is at this point that there arises a possibility of duplication. He may, for example, decide to grant exclusive rights to the first publisher in a given language who may write to him, or he may on the other hand grant rights wholesale to all comers. He remarked to [redacted] that as of the date of [redacted] visit he had already received five requests for rights [redacted]

[redacted] We have no other information as to how Feltrinelli may or may not have responded to these requests.

4. So far as [redacted] is concerned, we have a control over [redacted] which should prevent any [redacted] publication of Dr. Zhivago which would duplicate an edition possibly being sponsored by some other CIA asset in the field. [redacted] was carefully briefed before his departure, by [redacted] to the effect that he could talk to publishers or anyone else whom he chose to see, but that his authority was restricted to submitting recommendations to [redacted] [redacted] is not authorized to sign contracts with publishers, commit [redacted] funds, etc. [redacted]

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