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FROM: Gaither G. Stewart

SUBJECT: My trip to the Hague, December 2-3, 1965

I spent two days in the Hague visiting the headquarters of the International Documentation and Information Center (INTERDOC), Van Stolkweg 10, 's Gravenhage. First, a few notes on this organization. The purpose of INTERDOC is: "to promote a better and wider knowledge of East-West problems -- in particular the East-West confrontation -through the exchange of documentation and information. (Attached is a pamphlet describing the organization and activities of INTERDOC.) I am familiar with the organization's branches in Munich and the Hague and, later this week, I will visit INTERDOC, U.K. in London. The people I have met who are members of INTERDOC include Dr. Claus Kernig in Freiburg, Bob Hindersin in Hamburg, N. von Grote in Munich, and Messrs C. C. van den Heuval, INTERDOC's Director in the Hague, and his deputy, Herman Mennes. There appear to be many organizations throughout Europe which are associated with INTERDOC. One of these is the Centro di Studi e Richerche sui Problemi Economico-Sociali (CESES), an organization with whom we are in contact with. Also, an organization with which I became familiar about four years ago, Union Mondiale and Europeens, is also associated with INTERDOC.

INTERDOC is interested in opening a branch office in the United States. Mr. van den Heuval will travel to the States in April to establish contacts. Ni He is already acquainted with Frank Barnett of the National Strategy Information Center but is looking xim suggestions for other contacts as well.

I spoke at great length with messrs van den Heuval, and Mennes, and Mr. J. R. G. Verreijdt of Inter Press. I will summarize below the main points of my talks with these gentlemen.

1. INTERDOC will assist us with contacts in Sweden, Switzerland and Denmark. (Attached is a complete list of names and addresses of

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- contacts given to me by Messrs. van den Heuval and Mennes.)
- 2. They have a close working relationship with the National Union of Students of the Netherlands and the with the Netherlands Youth Association, the Dutch affiliate of WAY. In fact, HermankMarkers Mr. Mennes is a member of the board of the National Union of Students and is in charge of a training program for a select groups of students. He was training them for the World Youth Festival which was to have taken place in Algiers this year; now he will continue to train them for the next youth festival. This will be interesting for us to follow up. MR We are establishing ing indirect contact with an increasing number of student groups in many European countries.
- 3. (a) The Netherlands section in Leiden of the International Student
  Travel Agency sponsors two trips a year to the Soviet Union with about
  30 to 40 students each time. The student exchange sponsors various
  study gra trips to the Soviet Union. At the present time, a group of
  60 economics students from the University of Rotterdam are participating
  in a three or four week study tour in Moscow. (They will be contacted
  upon their return.) (c) There are meetings between Dutch and Soviet
  students at conferences in Western Europe. (d) Various Soviet delegations go to Holland throughout the year.
- 4. Mennes has contacts also with a Ukrainian named Kuschpeta who lectures at the University of Tilburg and with a certain Dutchman who resides at a monastery at Voorburg. The latter gentlemen trained at the Russicum in Rome. He speaks Russian and travels frequently in the Soviet Union. He also in "in charge of" an estimated 200 Russian women who married Dutchmen and who presently live in Holland.
- 5. I made arrangements with Mennes to do maixy regular mailings from the Hague Hague under the name of something like the Netherlands Literary Club. We will furnish addresses, titles, and a short letter to accompany each book. The mailings will be from a private address in the Mange Hague.

- 6. Mennes, who was born in Indonesia, maintains an interest in that country and is distributing various kinds of // literature to Indonesian students. He has some xxxx sort of xxxx courrier service to Djakarta and a group of students at the University there distribute the materials. He is willing to distribute the Paris Bloc Journal in the same manner. We are xxxxx going to try this for a while and see how it works.
- Mennes introduced me to Mr. J. R. G. Verreijdt who is the M representative for Inter Press in the Hauge. Inter Press, whose headquarters are in Rome, is run by a Dutchman, Dr. Hahn, and an Italian, Dr. Savio. Although it is not publicized, Inter Press in sponsored by the International Union of Christian Democrats. Its principle activities are at the present time seem to be in Latin America. Their offices in the Hague, Rome and Santiago de Chile are a connected by telex. Inter Pres, Rome, telexes feature axxive articles daily to its xxx Santiago office, I which in turn, sends the articles by wire service to some 300 leading Latin American newspapers. The Santiago office sends background materials to the European branches. Mr. Verreijdt said that he was willing to take one of our feature articles each week and would distribute them through Inter Press to these same Latin American papers. This would mean a tremendous increase in our distribution and all free of charge if this works out. In exchange for furnishing them with our articles, they will make available to us the background materials they receive from Latin America. Our articles will be airmailed to the Hauge each Tur Tuesday afternoon. They will be telexed from the Mamga Hague to Rome and from Rome to Santiago and should be received by the newspapers by Wednesday or Thursday of each week. We will forward the first feature articles on Wednesday, December 8.

### Contacts in Sweden

- 1. Mr. Sten Palsson, Rabyvägen 15H, Box 729, Lund (INFORM)
- 2. Mr. Ake Sparring, Ragnebergsu 33, Vendelso/Stockholm (Institute of International Affairs)
- 3. Mr. B. Hagard, Sjöbergsvilgen 11, Danderyd (President of the young Conservatives in Sweden), Tel.: 08/58.28.82
- 4. Mr. B. Hüggman, Tornavägen ), Lund (INFORM)
- 5. Mr. J. Rydström, Högbergstgt. 30 A, Stockholm (Jernkontoret) Tel.: 22.46.20

# Contacts in Switzerland

- 1. Dr. Peter Sager Schweizerisches Ost-Institut, Jubiläumstr. 41, Bern, Tel.: 27769
- 2. Mr. H. Graf "Wahret die Freiheit", Postfach, Zürich 34, Tel.: 27.10.60

### Contacts in Denmark

- 1. Mr. E. N. Svendsen\*, Jaegersborgvej 3, Kgs. Lyngby (Frihed Og Folkostyre)
- 2. Mr. B. Holmgaard, Information, Kongensgade 40, Copenhagen
- Mr. H. Jensen, Landesorganizationen Demokratisk Alliance, Postbox 12, Kgs. Lyngby, Tel.: 01/67/27/78

(\*Office in Copenhagen: c/o Mr. F. Mielsen
Rosenvaengets Allé l
Copenhagen Ø - tel.: Øbro 3025)

# INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION CENTRE

( INTERDOC

Van Stolkweg 10 - The Hague - Helland

Tel: (070) 542703

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Ι

#### HISTORY

A meeting took place in the autumn of 1957 in the South of France between a French and a German group, composed of representatives of science, industry, press and the Armed Forces, who, a titre prive', wished to discuss East-West problems, especially in regard to the new Communist challenge; peaceful coexistence.

In the autumn of 1958 a Dutch group of similar composition and with the same interests joined the others. During the fellowing years a tendence became apparent in the discussions to aim at more concrete, practical points, in particular in regard to the increasing East-West confrontation. It also became increasingly clear that a solution to the new challenge could not be found in a negative anti-Communism, but that a more positive anti-Communism was required, which would involve a closer examination of the basic values of the West, and their dissemination in the Communist world and in the developing countries.

The tendency towards a more practical approach to certain

The tendency towards a more practical approach to certain problems also created the need for a centre of documentation and information for the groups from the various countries. This idea gradually took shape and in February 1963, was finally realized.

II

# PURPOSE

The purpose of Interdec is: to promote a better and wider knowledge of East-West problems - in particular the East-West confrontation - through the exchange of documentation and information.

III .

### MAIN TASKS .

#### 1. Documentation

#### A. Main subjects:

- a. East-West relations;
- b. the various implications of East-West contacts;
- c. international and national Communist activities, in particular psychological action;
- d. efforts in the Free World to promote a better and wider knowledge of basic Western values;
- e. efforts in the Free World to oppose national and international Communist activities;
- f. East-West confrontation in the Third World.

#### B. Contents:

The documentation centre contains an index system (also indicating material outside the Interdoc documentation), a library, a collection of periodicals, a collection of special reports, documents etc. and documentation regarding institutes engaged in the study of, or information concerning East-West problems.

# 2. Information

- A. Interdec is a <u>clearing house</u> for documentation and Information on the subjects mentioned above. Interdec regards it to be its special task to provide information to those:
  - a. who are well placed to introduce Western ideas into the Communist world;
  - b. who are actually involved in East-West contacts;
  - c. who are particularly exposed to the Communist psychological approach;
  - d. who are in a position to promote effective resistance to Communist psychological action.

# B. Periodical publications:

- a. Notes on Communist and Communist-sponsored activities as reported by Communist Sources (weakly, also in French);
- Spiegel der kommunistischen wissenschaftlichpelitischen Publizistik (menthly, also in English and in French);
- Religious life in Communist countries (monthly, also in German and French);
- d. Beitrage zur psychopolitischen Lage der europaischen Ostblocklander (quarterly, enly in German);
- e. The activities of Communist World Organisations (quarterly, only in English);
- f. Interdec Information Bulletin (quarterly, mainly English, partly German).

### C. Special publications:

Interded publishes a number of brechures on subjects related to the East-West confrontation.

It also promotes publications through its associate connections.

IV

### USE OF DOCUMENTATION AND

# INFORMATION MATERIAL

Material is sent to institutions and individuals in various countries, notably to:

- 1. Institutes for the study of East-West problems;
- 2. Official departments dealing with East-West affairs;
- 3. International companies;
- 4. Organisations of employers;
- 5. Trade-unions;
- 6. Student organisations:
- 7. Daily papers and periodicals;
- 8. Political parties;
- 9. Staff-colleges.

#### NATIONAL CENTRES

Interdec aims at performing its takks by cooperation with national centres in the various countries in which it has associate connections.

The three main national centres are in the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, respectively:

- Verein zur Erforschung sozial-pelitischer Verhältnisse e.V., München:
- Stichting voor enderzeek van ecologische vraagstukken,
   Den Haag;
- 3. Interdoc-U.K., London.

The boards of the national centres usually have as members representatives of science, industry, press and Armed Forces.

Apart from these national centres Interdec maintains contacts with institutions and individuals in various other countries mainly in the Western World.

VI

### INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

Interdoc having been itself the result of international meetings, it has—since its foundation in 1963—promoted them and has taken over their organisation. They are held twice a years, and for some time the main theme has been East-West confrontation. Various aspects of this problem have been treated, but it is felt—because of the great importance of this subject—that a much clearer insight and a wider knowledge are necessary. International conferences are regarded by Interdoc as very useful means to that end.

VII

## BOARD, STAFF, OFFICE, FINANCE

Interdec has a beard and an advisory-committee, in which the main national centres are represented.

It has a director, a deputy director and a small staff.

The office is in The Hague in the Netherlands.

The necessary finances are provided by these associated national centres which are prepared to spend a part of their budget on this international effort.