

SECRET

OCT 18 1955

Chief, FE

Chief of [ ]

INFO: Chief of [ ]  
Chief, [ ]

Operational

Biographical Sketch of STBRANT-1

1. Transmitted herewith is a biographical sketch of STBRANT-1 as compiled from material available to [ ] and to [ ]. The purpose of presenting such information at this time is to provide the reader with a handy reference to STBRANT-1's operational history without having to review numerous documents which might not be readily available. A dispatch concerning the future plans for STBRANT-1 is currently being prepared and will be forwarded to Headquarters shortly.

2. Upon graduation in 1932 from the Osaka National Language School where he studied Mongolian, Chinese (Mandarin), Manchurian (Tungus), Russian and Japanese history, culture, law and political theory (specializing in Mongolian area studies during his last two years in school), STBRANT-1 obtained a position as translator/interpreter/recruiter with the founding Mongolian Army at Chien-shi-tien, Manchuria. The Japanese Kwangtung Army at this time was busily engaged in establishing a Mongolian army friendly to Japan and under the control of Japanese puppets. In addition to his translating, interpreting and recruiting duties, STBRANT-1 was employed as a Japanese Department of the Army civilian. His job was to translate intelligence reports for IDENTIFY A, a Japanese advisor to the Mongolian Army.

3. In July 1934 STBRANT-1 was transferred to the newly established Mongolian Military Academy located at Wangyehsiao to teach Japanese language and history. It was while he was in Wangyehsiao that STBRANT-1 devoted a portion of each day to the study of the Mongolian language and culture. Subject soon developed an emotional feeling for the Mongolians which stimulated his desire to learn everything possible about them. This feeling towards the Mongolian people enabled Subject to mingle with leading Mongolian personalities and discuss both current and past political events. This sympathy for the Mongolians has carried through in Subject's thinking to the present time. At the end of March 1936 Subject was transferred to Lumin Hsiao where, as head of a 20-man Tokuma Kikan (TKK) group, he was targeted at Outer Mongolia. Although his formal education in the intelligence field, he was directed to gather military, economic and political information on the eastern part of Outer Mongolia.

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through 1939 Subject concentrated on maintaining friendly relations with Mongolian princes in the Northeast Silingol League and was instrumental in the apprehension of some 40-50 Outer Mongolian and Chinese agents dispatched by the Outer Mongol NVD, Internal Affairs Office, 3rd Section, and actually run by the Soviets from Moscow. From late 1939 through 1941 Subject debriefed Mongolian agents who had returned from assignments in Outer and Inner Mongolia. This work led naturally to his next assignment as a liaison official between the YKK and the Kapsalai (KPT) while acting as a case officer for the low level intelligence operations directed against Outer Mongolia. Subject performed in this capacity from 1941 to 1945.

4. At the conclusion of World War II, Subject wandered about the outskirts of Wangshuiao until 2 September 1945 when he was arrested by a "Peace Maintenance" group and turned over to a Soviet Air Force component which had moved into Manchuria sometime after 9 August. This group transported Subject to Changchun where he was put to work in the Changchun Supply Depot under the command of a Soviet Junior Lieutenant. In March 1946 a former YKK subordinate of Subject revealed to the Soviets the latter's previous connections with the YKK. STERANT-1 was imprisoned for ten days and upon release agreed to gather information for the Soviets on the Chinese Nationalist organizations in the area. Subject stated that he submitted two reports to an unknown Soviet case officer at Changchun and that after the Soviets left in April 1946, he had no further contact with them. The LOFLUTTER examination (see FJBA-3517) conducted in January 1955 bears out Subject's statement that he has had no further contact with the Soviets.

5. Later in 1946 STERANT-1 was employed by a Lieutenant Colonel of the Chinese Nationalist army and a Mr. WU (fn), also associated with the Chinese Nationalist army who asked him to report on Mongolian activities. Subject was assigned to the North East Generalissimo Field Staff unit, Changchun Branch. He later learned that a Japanese, whom he had met previously, had recommended him to the Chinese Nationalists. Subject compiled background information on the Japanese occupation of Manchuria and Mongolia, Mongolian personalities and the general Mongolian political situation. He quit working for the Chinese Nationalists at the end of July 1946 due to his dislike for the Chinese officers with whom he worked and because he received a cut in salary.

6. In September 1946 IDENTITY B approached the head of a Mongolian refugee organization and requested aid in obtaining information regarding Mongolian affairs. STERANT-1 was recommended by the refugee organization to IDENTITY B who in turn introduced Subject to IDENTITY C. IDENTITY C utilized

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him to: (A) act as a Mongolian language teacher; (B) provide information on Mongolian personalities; (C) supply information on Inner Mongolia; and (D) act as a liaison between IDENTITY G and the head of the Mongolian community in Chungking until late November 1947. At this time Subject sent his wife and children to Kyushu and then moved with IDENTITY D to Peiping when the Changchun unit of IDENTITY D was merged with the Peiping unit under the control of IDENTITY E. In Peiping, STERANT-1 worked with IDENTITIES G and F on a stay-behind operation involving a Chinese agent. In April 1948 STERANT-1 moved on to Shanghai where he continued the compilation of biographic information on Mongolians (later published in the Mongolian Who's Who, FJI-6890) and also read information reports prepared by other agents and commented on information which they supplied. In February 1949 STERANT-1 moved from Shanghai to Canton where IDENTITY G became his case officer; here he helped with the training of Mongolians who were being prepared as penetration agents to be sent to Inner Mongolia. In June 1949 he left Canton for Tainan, Taiwan where he remained until August 1949.

7. On 21 August 1949 Subject was brought black into Japan via KUBARK channels and commenced work in Project LFRANKENTHRE, an operation targeted against Inner Mongolia and allied areas, such as Tsinghai and Hainchiang; and the Mongolian People's Republic and Tibet. This project never reached fruition and was terminated in 1952. Subject, however, was directed to maintain contact with [ ] (formerly encrypted as [ ]). In the case of [ ], the contact was continued in order to monitor [ ] penetration of the Chinese Nationalist Ministry of the Interior Investigation Bureau. In January 1955 [ ] was given an LCFLOTTER examination when it was discovered that he had leaked information to his MIIB case officer concerning the plans of Project STERANTICE. Among other things he had given a description of STERANT-1. Approval to terminate this agent was granted by Headquarters in FJYM-6615 dated 19 July 1955.

8. Coincident with his handling of the STERANTICE complex STERANT-1 had been incorporated into Project STERANTICE, set up to collect background and operational information on the Mongolian People's Republic by monitoring the daily evening radio broadcasts from Ulan Bator. [ ] (formerly [ ]) was the chief agent of the project. His duties consisted of recording the broadcasts and submitting reports of these broadcasts to STERANT-1 for comment before submission to the project case officer. This activity was terminated in October 1953, after it was determined that the Foreign Broadcast Information Service had better facilities for monitoring the Ulan Bator radio.

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9. Concurrent with STERANT-1's participation in Projects STRATHORN and STRAZNICE, he was written into Project STERANT which was designed to lead support and advice to the [ ] Ethnic Group activities which included STRATHORN and STRAZNICE. The project was approved in 1953 and expired 31 December 1954. Since that date STERANT-1 has been used in the developmental STRAZNICE activity as a cut-out between the case officer [ ] and [ ]. In addition STERANT-1 has been given non-operational translation tasks by his case officer. In recent months STERANT-1 has introduced [ ] to the case officer who now feels that he would prefer to handle [ ] directly instead of through STERANT-1. Inasmuch as STERANT-1 is currently involved with only the STRAZNICE activity, the case officer considers that now is an opportune time to implement the termination of Subject.

10. In this dispatch [ ] has summed up the pertinent points in STERANT-1's history principally as it has related to his employment by KUBARK during the past years. Recent dispatches (FJBA-5788, FJBA-5928, FJBA-6596) from the [ ] have covered STERANT-1's services for KUBARK in more specific detail and have elaborated on his loyalty to this organization. [ ] is currently preparing a dispatch for Headquarters, [ ] and [ ] concurrence which embodies recommendations for the future utilization and/or termination of Subject.

Enclosure:

Identities (under separate cover)

7 October 1955

Distribution:

- 3 - Chief, FE, w/3 cys encl
- 1 - Chief, [ ] w/1 cy encl
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Originated by: [ ]

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See memo to FOS-762

Details

Under separate cover

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IDENTITY A - SAITO Kyohei (7872/5673/1872/1687)

IDENTITY B -

IDENTITY C -

IDENTITY D - NSD #44

IDENTITY E -

IDENTITY F -

IDENTITY G -

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