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Dochev

7 October 1953

1. I have A letter to Dochev. A only stated "This will enable me to try to secure funds from Free Europe on whose board I have acquaintances. I do not know what the results will be but believe that the effort should be made." Letter attached (Eng & Bug).

2. I only made this explanation to A of why D should be informed he A has no longer acquaintances there: That D might possibly approach NCFE or write to them, and might mention A's name - which would be bad. If we had any interest in D, it would not be wise for D to become involved politically in refugee matters which association with NCFE would entail. Also that NCFE had persons employed there who were not too able on Bug affairs, and who independently took action which we did not always think wise.

3. According to A, Dochev is a complete non-linguist. Despite his years in Germany, he only knows enough to exist; the same is true of D's English. Mrs. Dochev told A that her husband was unable to learn any language except Bulgarian. A has evidently inspired quite a bit of confidence with D; and in discussing the possibilities of his trip to the US to get backing, D wants Andros to act as an interpreter for him.

4. D told A that he had signed letters from 200 of his followers agreeing to go back as "partisans" to Bulgaria, if D can find the ways and means to finance and launch the deal.

Recommendations

1. That A be instructed to write D: (a) He is no longer connected with GENIS; (b) that the acquaintances he had at NCFE are no longer there; (c) that he has met a man whom he believes connected with US "National Defense" to whom he mentioned Dochev; that the man is interested in discussing affairs with Dochev if the latter is able to get a visitor's visa to come to (someplace other than Washington or NY); (d) that it is up to Dochev to get his visa; (e) that the man will pay \$100 (?) to enable D to make the trip.

Bear in mind that D speaks nothing but Bug.

*Springfield -
Library ?*

A's Personal Affairs

1. Not as bad as I thought. A is still on the payroll of the NE College Association as a consultant on Bulgarian affairs. He will continue in this capacity as long as the College problems exist. This gives him some semblance of legitimate livelihood. A also says that since it is generally known that he does private accounting work - he is doing nothing to disabuse people of the idea that he isn't working as same currently.

2. A is going to stop by and see Dr. Hardy about Roberts College deal.

3. I told him the covers we had discussed with him didn't look hopeful at this time, but cannot be considered dead as yet. I emphasized to him that

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possibilities we might develop should not stop his making every effort on his own. He is rather reluctant about approaching Dr. Hardy since he so flatly turned them down before. I gave him quite a pep talk on how all of us had to reverse our positions at times when our work demanded it. I pointed out that he had a perfectly logical excuse for being interested now whereas he hadn't been in the past: namely, that he was in the process of becoming an American citizen, that he wanted to live in the States for several years to become oriented, etc. He seemed to cheer up with this idea. I also told him that in order to continue his usefulness to us, it might be necessary for him to take on independent accounting work (which he hates) for the time being. He agreed, and seemed to understand why, that this might be necessary.

4. About the VOA job. This is a lost cause. A feels very definitely that overt Govt. employment might prejudice his mother's and Virginia's position. He said that if something happens to them now, he feels that he is doing all he can to protect them. If he did become openly connected with the Government and something happened - he would always feel that he had contributed to their fate. I agreed with him that he was right in refusing to consider this type employment as long as he had such strong convictions. I explained that you had merely mentioned the VOA possibility to see how he, A, felt about the matter since we hadn't discussed it for some time. I feel he should not be urged to do anything of this type which is so strongly opposed to his conscience.

American Bulgarian League

We discussed his past and future connection with the organization at some length. He felt very discouraged that the possibilities of building it up into something useable hadn't materialized. We agreed that the ABL probably had no potentialities for the future. However, I told him that contrary to what he thought, the "exercise" had proved to be of value to us, since through the information furnished by him we had been able to learn just exactly what the League was, what it was doing, what it could do, and much about the personalities who controlled it - that it was very important for us to learn that the organization had no possibilities through first-hand information for us. He agreed that the organization will go on as a strife-torn refugee political organization, with a comparatively undesirable element of the Bulgarian emigration predominating.