

*file in CIA  
7/8/54  
EAT*

~~SECRET~~

*Whitcomb  
Inmitt  
EE-1  
104-1  
304  
EE-1  
EE-5  
10-17*

Memorandum

Subject: Iadislav DOBOS @ Louis GIBARTI @ Iadislav DOVOSGAS  
@ Alfred FELLNER

1. DOBOS was born in Miskolc, Hungary on 26 April 1895. His father, Dr. Josef DOBOS, and mother, Irene DOBOS, are still alive and living in Budapest. DOBOS also has a sister living in Budapest and a brother, Lieutenant Colonel E. I. DOBOS, U.S. Army, Senior Surgeon, Department of Health, reported in April 1947 to be living in Denver, Colorado.

2. In 1913 DOBOS received a bachelor's degree at the University of Budapest. In the summer of 1913 he studied political science at Oxford University for three months. From 1913 to 1915 he studied law and economics at the University of Budapest and at the Vienna Hochschule fur Welthandel. In 1915 he became a lieutenant of artillery in the Austrian army and later commanded a battery of mountain howitzers. In 1918 he returned to Budapest and acted as Hungarian Foreign Office liaison officer to the inter-allied military mission in the area of Hungary under Count KAROLYI's presidency. With the establishment of the Bela KUN dictatorship in March 1919, DOBOS was sent to fight against the Czechs and Rumanians who had invaded Hungary.

3. In December 1919 DOBOS went to Vienna and opened the Neue Europa Press Bureau. At the same time, he continued his studies in the field of political economy and graduated from the Hochschule fur Welthandel. He also has a degree of Doctor of Law and Political Science from the University of Budapest.

4. While in Vienna DOBOS met Fridtjof NANSEN who was then travelling throughout Europe enlisting aid for famine relief in the lower Volga regions. At NANSEN's invitation DOBOS participated in the conference at which the relief organization, International Workers Relief for Soviet Russia, IWR, (Internationale Arbeiterhilfe, IAH) was formed. Willi MUENZENBERG, a leading German Communist and old associate of LENIN, who had been delegated by the Comintern to organize famine relief outside of Russia, succeeded in having himself elected Secretary of the organization.

5. Due to the fact that DOBOS spoke a number of languages, in 1921 he became the International Secretary of the IWR, a position he held until 1927. This was the beginning of a long collaboration between DOBOS and MUENZENBERG. In 1926, having come completely under the influence of Willi MUENZENBERG, DOBOS joined the German Communist Party. Between 1921 and 1927, in his capacity as the International Secretary of the IWR, DOBOS travelled to Russia, Ireland, Scandinavia, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, France, England, Japan, China, and the United States. He made his first trip to Russia in 1922 in the company of Fridtjof NANSEN.

6. In 1927, at the suggestion of Willi MUENZENBERG, DOBOS set about organizing the League Against Imperialism and Colonial Oppression. In the

*Research N.Y.  
5-4-54  
EAT  
(S)  
cc: [unclear]  
5/17/54  
EAT*

~~SECRET~~

*5-ETT*

SECRET

same year, he was elected International Secretary of the League at the Brussels Conference where it was created.

7. In 1929 DOBOS resigned from the League to take up his work with the IWR in the United States, where he organized an American branch of that organization. Before going to the United States he went to Moscow for briefing in order that he might be able to start an American branch of the Friends of the Soviet Union. This he also accomplished by making use of the American branch of the IWR. He characterized this effort as "making sentimental propaganda for the Soviets", through a variety of projects such as the reception of Soviet round-the-world fliers, collecting funds for shipping modern agricultural equipment to Russia, making personal campaigns among the intelligentsia, and lecturing at women's clubs, universities, etc. After two years of this DOBOS returned to Berlin and worked for the IWR for a few months.

8. In 1931 DOBOS was active in the organization of the Comintern-sponsored League Against War and Fascism, of which he was elected Secretary General. In 1933 with Hitler's advent to power, DOBOS fled to France with Willi MUENZENBERG, where he collaborated in writing and publishing anti-Hitler and anti-Franco works.

9. In 1933, at Willi MUENZENBERG's instance, DOBOS formed the Lord Marley Committee Against the Hitler Terror, to which Lord MARLEY had lent his name in ignorance of the fact that DOBOS was a Communist working for the Comintern. After the burning of the Reichstag, DOBOS helped organize the International Inquiry Commission on the burning of the Reichstag. In June 1934 DOBOS came to the United States and organized the American Inquiry Commission into the Hitler Terror, of which Clarence DARROW was elected chairman and other members were Arthur Garfield HAYES, Dudley Field MALONE, and George Gordon BATTLE. The American Inquiry Commission's meetings were held under the aegis of the New York County Lawyers' Association and took place in their building. Between 1934 and 1938 DOBOS spent most of his time in the United States contacting labor groups, Jewish groups, and anyone interested in fighting the Nazis.

10. During this period he edited the anti-nazi paper Volksecho, said to have been the successor to Der Arbeiter, a Communist daily. Although not issued as a Communist Party organ, it was controlled absolutely by Communists and its editorial policies always coincided with those of the New York Daily Worker. At this time DOBOS represented Weltfilm GmbH in the United States. In his visa application of 18 September 1933, he stated that his address in the United States would be in care of Kinematrade, Inc., 723 Seventh Avenue, New York. This was the same address as the Rankin, official Soviet agency importing Soviet films. In 1936 DOBOS and Roger BALDWIN founded the Medical Bureau of American Friends of Spanish Democracy, with DOBOS as secretary of the organization. In the same year, when the Rassemblement Universel pour la Paix was formed in Europe as a result of the failure of the League Against War and Fascism to reach many people, DOBOS and the French General POUDROUX campaigned for the RUP in the United States.

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

- 3 -

11. 1938 marked a change in DOBOS' political orientation, according to his own statements. Until 1936 he had gladly followed Comintern policy because he believed in the ideal of Communist revolution; however as the Comintern became primarily an instrument of Russian nationalism he became alienated. However, it was only when his guide and mentor Willi MUENZENBERG was expelled from the Party in 1938 that DOBOS resigned, protesting in his letter of resignation against MUENZENBERG's expulsion.

12. In 1938 Willi MUENZENBERG founded ~~Die~~ Zukunft, a newspaper dedicated to bringing about a united democratic front with the exclusion of the Communists. DOBOS contributed about three articles a week which were published under his pen-name ~~"~~JEFFERSONIAN~~"~~.

13. In 1940 DOBOS participated in a committee of exiled Hungarians under the leadership of Laszlo ~~FENYES~~. With the advance of the Germans on Paris, he fled to Marseille where he contacted Walter ~~BENNINGHAUS~~ of the ~~International~~ Transport Federation. Varian M. ~~FRY~~ sent him to Spain with ~~BENNINGHAUS~~ with the intention of getting him to Portugal and thence to England or America. DOBOS reached Madrid on 8 May 1941 and was arrested on 19 May 1941. From that date until May 1945 he spent mostly in Spanish prisons and concentration camps. After his release he got a job with the Press Bureau of the Unitarian Service Committee in Paris. DOBOS later denounced ~~FIELDS~~ as being a member of the Communist Party and left the Unitarian Service Committee in 1946. In 1947 he was employed with UNESCO in Paris and was contributing articles to the ~~Tribune~~ des Nations. No more recent information on DOBOS is available in our files.

3

~~SECRET~~