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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2005

9 October 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF, EASTERN EUROPEAN DIVISION

SUBJECT: Threatening Letters Received from Former Trainees

In accordance with your request, I am listing below the actions taken concerning the threatening letters received at the Political Action School.

1. On 16 September a cable was received from Munich stating that two former trainees of the SHELDON Political Action School were threatening to compromise the school. These two individuals were students of the original class at the PA School but were returned to Germany shortly after their arrival because they were not considered suitable for training.

2. On 17 September the SE Division sent a cable to Munich recommending, first, that the Ukrainian Emigre Organization with which they are connected publish a statement that certain unscrupulous individuals were attempting blackmail. The purpose of this statement was to diminish any derogatory effects of information that these two men might give the press. Secondly, a cable asked the field to tell them that their unwarranted attacks would adversely effect any emigration possibilities and the Ukrainian revolutionary movement. Thirdly, it asked the emigre organization to exert its control over these people.

3. Shortly thereafter, the PA School received a letter from one of the men [redacted] dated 16 September, which demanded a visa to visit his wife in the United States and compensation for the time he lost in PA training. He said that if he did not receive satisfaction, he would write to the President of the United States and also give out information on the school to the Munich press.

4. On 3 October the PA School received another letter - this time from the other man (SI-507) in which he stated he was in a hopeless condition and, therefore, was forced to make certain demands. He demanded 1) either payment of a one year salary of \$150.00 a month less the amount that he has already received, or 2) a secure position in Europe or America, or 3) immediate emigration to the

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United States. He added that if he did not receive an answer by 14 October this he would be forced to turn the matter over to the Jaffel Boston court.

5. Three letters were turned over to [ ] of I&SO by [ ] of TR/S. On 30 September [ ] discussed the first letter with [ ] and briefed him on the background of the two people involved. [ ] was told that this seemed to be a problem for the field and that a cable had been sent to the field with suggestions for handling the matter. [ ] agreed with this approach and said he could see no further feasible action at that time.

6. While a second cable on this subject was being prepared for the field, the second letter was received. EE, in conjunction with SR, then sent out a cable on the 6th of October which noted the receipt of the two letters, asked the field to handle this situation on a priority basis and report their progress.

7. On 7 October the field replied that they would ask PL's 507 and 507 to report to the Hicog building on 13 October to discuss matters of official nature. The cable said that two case officers dressed as Army officers would interview the two men and that their degree of toughness and any threats to be used would be dependent upon the reactions of the former students. The cable also requested headquarters' concurrence. On 8 October EE advised its concurrence but recommended that contact with the individuals be made some other way than in writing.

8. Since this problem is the joint concern of EE, SR and Inspection and Security, EE/FT has worked closely with [ ] of SR, has been in touch with [ ] of I&SO.

9. Attached for your information is the background of the two students concerned.

[ ]  
EE/FT

Attachment

EE/FT/MEV/pt  
10 October 1952

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