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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, SR/DOF
 ATTN : []
 FROM : Instructor, Foreign Trainees

DATE: 4 March 1958

SUBJECT: Evaluation of trainees in Special Project AEACRE
 (P) Mario K. GIORDANO
 [] []

1. Instruction for the two trainees in this project was commenced 4 November and completed 20 November 1957, except for periodic consultations with them covering some of the material which they had been studying under the guidance of our instructor. In view of the extensive training and long background experience in intelligence activities of trainees the sessions were approached largely on a round-table basis. In this fashion we covered a review of Tradecraft fundamentals, observation, description, and reporting, principles of elicitation, interviewing and interrogation, surveillance and oral coverage of telephone taps and mikes, CI methods of control, and wound up our discussions on training techniques. Our interest was placed on concepts and doctrine. It is the concepts, doctrine, and techniques which we felt would be of benefit to trainees in line with their future assignments.

2. [] was the covert instructor and was known to trainees as []'. Trainees were known to him as "Alex" and "Petrov". I am reproducing herewith his comments concerning them after the completion of their work.

a. In our discussions together, both these men appeared to be knowledgeable, eager for new material and new points of view, and equally enthusiastic in airing their own views. Both displayed unusual penetration and insight in their thinking as well as in their questioning. To this extent they were similar, but here their similarity ended. To take them separately:

b. ALEX is the alert, well poised, professional officer type; highly disciplined; a meticulously organized mind. He is minutely critical; pinpoints everything, i.e., every thought must be tested in detail - every word tracked down to its precise meaning. To a subordinate, he would probably appear detached and slightly aloof but a man to command respect; a man to be trusted to know what is best. To

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my mind he is unquestionably dedicated, with a profound sense of responsibility for those committed to him for training or operational use. He is a very fine person, very, very proud and ambitious. The latter, are qualities which may require care in handling and watchfulness, for the corollaries for ALEX are, I believe, an utter contempt for inferiority, and frustration if he finds himself under a man who cannot command his respect and whom he knows he can "out-perform". He will, I believe, continue to be happy in his work, only as long as he is kept moving upwards and his responsibilities are increased.

c. [] is more deceptive. Outwardly, he has the appearance of a friendly, warmhearted, sentimental, self-indulgent Slav. At the same time, he gives one the impression of being rather passive and introspective; the moody type. One has, it seems, to press the right button, and if by chance one does, he becomes instantly transformed; a keen, objective, alert reactor, equally as tough-minded as ALEX and just as much a perfectionist.

d. I would judge (perhaps inaccurately because of our limited discussions) that whereas ALEX will command the respect of men, regardless of whether or not they like him, [] will be liked or disliked intensely, simply because he himself is only capable of the two extremes of being intensely loyal or hateful.

e. To my mind knowledgability and professionalism are not sufficient qualifications for the successful handling of [] He requires careful emotional handling as well -- the kind of understanding that can go to the depths of his moods as well as the heights of his capabilities. This may sound like "corn" because I am not making my meaning clear, but I am convinced that heart, more so than mind is the key to handling []

f. Both men are really tremendously likable. It was an intellectual exercise to work with them and both surely have the capacity for keeping a person on his toes. Fully exploited, there is no question in my mind but what both are capable of turning in increasingly fine jobs.

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