

1953, Feb : on the flight from Germany to the U.S.A.:  
Aleksel KURGVEL, a businessman, on a short trip to the U.S.A.

1953-up to date:

- a) With my friends and acquaintances: Working with the Department of Army in Washington, D.C., and sometimes outside, if a job requires this. Kind of work: using my knowledge of a few languages.
- b) 1953-1954, in Washington, if asked by landlord or other unknown people: Working in the office of an Attorney, at the corner of N and 20th Streets, N.W.. (I have forgotten the attorney's name.)
- c) For official use, 1954-1960: Department of Army, Wash. D.C.; Language and Area Evaluation Section, Operations and Training, DCS/OPS. Job: Interpreter-Consultant; later: linguistic and research adviser.  
Place of work: Guam Hall; (the later place, at 14 & T, NW, was not allowed to be mentioned).
- d) For official use, 1960 - up to date: Department of Army, Army Records Analysis Group, in Munitions Building.

Additionally to the previous, on TDY, 1958-1959:

- a) as told to our friends and relatives: Temporarily in Germany, with the US Army; in different places, starting in Frankfurt/Main, and including Munich.
- b) on the flight from Frankfurt/M to Jerusalem, and back: Alexander KUSEL, businessman; Costa Rican citizen, of Estonian nationality.
- c) In Jordan, in addition to the part mentioned above under "b": Electrical Engineer, working with the Royal Palace in Amman.

B. Exposure to Foreign Intelligence Services.

- 1) 1934-1940: Work in J2, HQ Estonian Armed Forces, in Tallinn.  
During this period of time some exposure to different other intelligence services may have resulted from my official association with the foreign Military Attaches accredited in Estonia, and the foreign military dignitaries visiting Estonia. As a result of these contacts I was given different foreign decorations and little presents. It is probable that in connection with that some traces concerning me have remained in the files of those states.

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DATE 2006

KURGVEL, Aleks

16 Jan 1964.

An Addition to  
PERSONAL HISTORY STATEMENT .

A. Covers Used.

- 1940, Jul/Aug: In AICH, near Karsbad, Sudetenland:  
Alexander KURBEL, a German returnee from Estonia; a businessman.
- 1940 - 1941 : In Berlin, Germany, when working with the I.G.FARBEN Industry:  
Aleksi KURGVEL, an Estonian who recently and very quickly received German citizenship thanks to his "special and high-ranking acquaintances."
- 1941, in June: On the way from Berlin to Helsinki, Finland:  
Aleksi KURGVEL, an employee on the staff of the German Navy Attache in Helsinki.
- 1942 - 1944: When visiting and working special training camps of Russian volunteers in Estonia and in Finland:  
Captain Aleks (Aleksi) KUSEL, a Russian-speaking Finnish officer.
- 1950, March: When visiting London, on expenses of the British Mil. Intelligence: Aleksi KURGVEL, a tourist, visiting his friends.  
(Note: At the time of my stay in London I was allowed to see but three Estonians: two of them were working with the British Intelligence, and the Estonian Minister to Great Britain.)
- 1950, April-?: When interviewing some Germans who had returned from Soviet POW camps: Aleksi KURGVEL, former Estonian officer who fought together with the Germans during WW II; now collecting information for an intelligence organization of the Estonian escapees.
- 1951 - 1953: When in Munich, Germany, in American service:  
a) as an occupant of an apartment (provided by the employer) in the ABC-building: Alexander KUNSTMANN (no elaborate details).  
b) as told by my family to our friends: working "with the Americans", in Munich; living address: Montsalvat Str.13.  
c) as explained to the Estonian friends in Munich, in addition to that mentioned under "b" above, if necessary: working with the US Army, Munich Military Post.
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During this period I received decorations from the following States, listed in the order of reception:

- a) Finland;
- b) Sweden;
- c) Iceland;
- d) Roumania;
- e) Italy;
- f) Germany;
- g) Latvia.

Occasional little present I received from: the British Passport Officer ( a cover used by the British Military Intelligence officer in Tallinn); the Japanese Mil. Attaches; the Mil. Attache of the Soviet Union.

The official policy concerning these presents was to accept and to forget them without causing any trouble to the donor.

Other countries which had their Mil. Attaches accredited in Estonia, and with whom I had official contact, a frequent one, or at least a little more than just protocol matters, were:

- a) Czechoslovakia;
- b) France;
- c) Hungary;
- d) Lithuania;
- e) Norway;
- f) The United States of America.

I had no direct contact to these personalities in the field of secret intelligence work , except with the British Passport Officer, who knew that I was working on a work about the German forces.

It so happened, that I met the Mil. Attache of Norway once more, later, during WW II, in Summer 1941, in Finland, in woods not too far from Helsinki. I was there on a training trip with my Estonian volunteers and a few Finnish helpers. How and why he happened to come into this area, is unknown to me. At that time he was a Captain and Military Attache in Finland. Later he was a General, and Commander -in- Chief of the Norwegian Forces which fought Germany.

- 2) The Soviet Union gained approach to all personnel files of the Estonian Armed Forces in 1940. Thus, they have a full record of my military service in Estonia.

June 1940: They showed their interest concerning me by offering me , on 24 June, to work as their clandestine agent. I refused, and as a result of this, the Estonian C-in-C, who at this time was already a puppet of the Soviets, was ordered to remove me from J2. Thereupon I fled the country, being helped by the Assistant Military and Navy Attaches of Germany. This help was offered to me as soon as they heard from my superiors of the Soviet proposal and of my refusal to cooperate with the latter in this, clandestine field.

In 1950 the Soviets again showed their interest concerning me.

At that time they sent a former Estonian officer, one of their secret agents, from East Berlin to West Germany, where he contacted an other former Estonian officer. The latter informed me that at this time the Soviets were interested in three former Estonian officers in Germany, of whom I was one. I reported this case to the American and to the British security officers, and later, when already in contact with my present employer, then also to my immediate superior of that time.

- 3) 1940-1945: Work with the German Military Intelligence Service.  
In July '40, as soon as I arrived in Berlin, I reported to the German Mil.Intell. Service, the "Abwehr", which had helped me to escape from the Communists, from Estonia. Since then, and up to the end of WW II, I remained in close contact with the "Abwehr I", and this contact resulted in:
- 1940-1941: Directed to work with the I.G.FARBEN Industrie in Berlin. Simultaneously, and between the work at I.G.Farben, I scanned the camps of "Returnees" from Estonia, with the purpose of finding agents-volunteers for "Abwehr II" work in Estonia in case of a war with the Soviet Union.
- June 1941: Transfer from Berlin to Helsinki, Finland, to the "KOF" the German Mil.Intell. unit there.
- Sep 1941: Transfer from Helsinki to Tallinn, Estonia, upon my request, to the Estonian branch of KOF, "Abwehr Nebenstelle Reval".
- Late 1943: Transfer to another Germ.Mil.Intell. unit, the "FAK 102" in Estonia, with which I remained up to July 1944, when this unit was moved out of Estonia.
- Jul-Sep '44: No official connection, however friendly personal contact with the KOF, resulting in my family's second escape from Estonia before the Communists took Tallinn.
- Sep '44-May '45: I joined the "FAK 166(H)" on the basis of the old friendship since 1941, when this unit and I were subordinated to KOF.
- Jan 1945: I rejected an offer to join an Estonian unit of the German Nazi-controlled Intelligence Service of the "SS".
- Apr 1945: The FAK 166(H) helped my family out of the Rostock area which was to fall into the hands of the Soviets.
- 04 May '45: End of the official contact with the German Mil.Intelligence. NOTE: Later, on many occasions, I was together with the former commanding officers of KOF, and of FAK 166(H) in different British detention camps and interrogation centers in Germany up to April 1946.
- 4) 1941-1944: Contact with the Finnish Mil. Intelligence Service.  
All my work with the Germans in Finland, was in close contact and cooperation with the Finnish military authorities. The Finns had all the information concerning my service in the Estonian Armed Forces. I was listed as an Estonian volunteer in the Radio Battalion of the Gen HQ of the Finnish Armed Forces.
- Mar 1942: To get better protection against the German Gestapo which was hunting nationally minded Estonians, I filed a formal
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request for enrolment in the Finnish Army. I was admitted. This I made on the advice of the Commander of KOF who was aware of Gestapo's intentions.

Jul 1944: Due to the changes in the military-political situation, I asked, and was granted, a discharge from the Finnish Forces.

5) May'45-1950: Contacts with the British Military Intelligence Service.

On 4 May 1945 I went through the German-British frontline, and reported my anti-Communist net of agents in Estonia. I asked for help to continue this work for the benefit of a future common anti-Communist fight. I was detained. It took over one year until I was adequately heard and cleared. I got no help for the continuation of the reported work.

In Aug 1946, after I had been for some months in a safehouse, evidently to recover from the year in prison cells, I was brought to DP Camp OXFORD, near Dannenberg. I was asked to remain in contact with the Mil. Intelligence people, for possible future use. For this purpose I had to visit once monthly the FSS in Lüneburg. I have forgotten the number of this Field Security Section.

In 1957, while still no work was forthcoming, and because the monthly trips to Lüneburg were embarrassing, I asked that these be discontinued.

In Mar 1950, when I was in Wentorf, waiting for emigration to the U.S.A., I was recontacted through the British Commander of the DPACCS. I went to London, "for talks", remained there for one week. Later I worked for some months in Hamburg area. The work consisted of interviewing some Germans selected from among those who were returning from POW camps in Soviet Union. I also interrogated an Estonian "escapee" whom I found to be a Soviet agent.

This was a part time job which did not give adequate results. Further, I could not agree with the inadequate conditions of life and security offered to my family in the case that I would engage myself in a full time job for the British intelligence in Germany. Therefore, when I had no time for this work, because of my preoccupation with my deferred emigration, this part time job and contact were allowed to fade out.

6) 1951 - up to date: Work with the American Government.

In Feb 1951 I was contacted by a representative of the American Government.

On 05 Sep '51 I signed my first contract with the American Government, for work in the field of intelligence activities.

This contract was followed by others, and my work and co-operation has continued uninterruptedly up to this time.

I do not know of any other exposures to foreign intelligence services, except the case with my TDY in Amman:

7) 1956-1959: Contact with the Jordanian Security authorities. As known to the Agency, my TDY in Amman was in close cooperation with the local security authorities, who knew that I, although having a Costa Rican passport, worked "for and with the Americans".

*Alex Kurgov*  
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