

SECRET

SR/2-B-62-245

14 September 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ARESIDECAR/2, Background Information

1. During the Stanford University meet operation, 18-23 July, quite a bit of background information was gathered on Subject. Basically, this information was gathered on the morning of 19 July 1962--part during a breakfast meeting, and the rest of it in my hotel room at the Menlo Motor Lodge in Menlo Park, California.

2. In view of the fact that Subject is paid on a nine-month basis by the Denver University and because he has a variety of expenses which have to be covered, Subject got himself a job in Anchorage, Alaska. Initially, he went up to work as a stevedore (I believe) for the Teamster's Union, but after a few days the particular job to which Subject had been assigned was cancelled and Subject found himself without work. Accordingly, he got another job, this time as a gardener for a Robert ATWOOD, who is the owner of the Anchorage Daily Times. Subject had no problem about leaving his employment, but there were some questions and raised eyebrows about the telephone calls he was receiving from Washington, D. C. Particularly interested in why Subject was going to the Stanford meet was a Steve MATHEWS, a long distance runner from Denver University, who is a senior pre-med student at that University, a good student, a track star, but a lackadaisical playboy. MATHEWS' step-father, name unknown, lives in North Hollywood and is in the export-import business. MATHEWS got a job through Subject in Anchorage and apparently the two of them lived either together or close by, so that MATHEWS was pretty much aware of Subject's movements. MATHEWS was particularly interested--apparently merely idle curiosity--regarding the number of Washington calls which Subject had received. Subject's standard answer was to the effect that it is well known that the President of the United States has been working hard in order to institute a fitness program, and these calls are in regard to this program. Subject stated that in no way did he indicate that intelligence or any other "monkey business" was involved.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2004 2005

[ ]

SECRET

- 2 -

3. In view of the fact that Subject is a well known track coach, formerly the coach of the Chilean Olympic Team and now working for Denver University, he had no cover problems about being in Stanford for the meet. Apparently, his presence was accepted on the basis of professional interest in the sport. Subject states that many coaches attend such meets to learn new techniques, etc. Additionally, Subject is very good friends with Peyton JORDAN, who is the Stanford track coach and also an official for the Stanford meet. Besides JORDAN, Subject is good friends with Lawrence HUSTON, a former U. S. runner who is now the Los Angeles school director for athletics and is the California President of the AAU. Another good friend is Sid KRAVENTHAL (alternate spelling: KRONENTHAL), who is the Culver City Parks and Recreation Director and also an AAU official. Subject felt that he would be officially invited to the meet by Peyton JORDAN. Actually, Subject had no cover or access problem. The only thing that he needed was a favored place at the meet itself. (He was given a fairly good seat for the games, but he had to pay six dollars for the ticket, anyway.) Later, during this period of the meet Subject had met with JORDAN, who told Subject that Stanford University would be needing a new freshman coach and JORDAN invited Subject to apply. Subject was to have met JORDAN for an interview of the morning of 23 July, but JORDAN did not show for the meeting, because he had been excused from attending the University on the 23d of July, as were the other officials participating at the track meet. As I left the area on 23 July in the evening, Subject stated he was to meet JORDAN for an interview on the following day, 24 July. When asked, regarding the chances he had for getting the job at Stanford, Subject stated that he was not particularly optimistic. The reason for this was that coaching jobs are very few and far between, Subject's English is not sufficiently good, and Subject was an alien in the U. S. Because of these factors, he felt that in all probability he would not be accepted. During the various conversations which I had with Subject he stated that he was totally dissatisfied with Denver University and that this coming academic year was probably his last with that institution. The reason for his dissatisfaction is a professional one. During the previous administration at Denver (the former athletic director recently died and a new one has been appointed in his place), Subject had in one year built up an excellent track team. The new administration, however, is de-emphasizing track and is concentrating almost exclusively on ice hockey and basketball. Subject, who is intensely and almost fanatically interested in track, feels that he has been cornered, his budget has been cut, and he has been "kicked upstairs", because, although his pay for the next academic year has been raised to over \$8,000, he will not be doing that which he enjoys most, i.e., track. Because of these factors Subject is thoroughly disgusted with the Denver University and would, therefore, be very much interested in getting the job at Stanford, where track is considered as one of the more important sports.

SECRET

SECRET

- 3 -

4. When asked about his children, Subject stated that Yuris married a Chilean girl, Patricia LNU, a very sweet and lovable girl; that Yuris was doing very well in his sports and that he would undoubtedly participate in the 1964 Olympics but for Chile and not for the United States. The reason for this was that Yuris' chances of making an American team were far more slim than they would be for making the Chilean team. Yuris will participate in the decathlon, although right now he has been working exclusively on the pentathlon. Yuris' weaknesses for the pentathlon are the broad jump, the high jump and the pole vault, and these are the things he must concentrate on in order to do a good job at the Olympics. Subject's other son, Maris, is attending the University, is doing very well academically, and is also training for track events. Subject additionally has two daughters, one ten years old and the other younger. The ten year old child is quite a sportsgirl even at her tender age. She holds some sort of a swimming championship in her age group in Colorado and is also excellent at ice-skating as well as some track events, particularly the discus throw. For training purposes Subject got her a low weight discus which was especially prepared for him by some friends in Finland. Subject stated that he owns a farm of some 200 acres near Santiago de Chile, that he is now renting out this farm, and that the rent almost covers his payments. He further stated that in about an additional three years he will own the farm outright. When asked regarding the future of this piece of property, he stated that he was not sure, but that if Yuris returned to reside in Chile, then in all probability Yuris would take over the running and management of this farm. Subject was a little pensive about this property, because he stated he had worked very hard for a number of years to bring it into shape, and now that he is renting it, it is slowly but surely being run down. Accordingly, he felt that someone should be on the spot to keep up the place.

5. In regard to his background, Subject had the following to say: After finishing the University, having majored in Physical Education, Subject became a teacher at the Riga High School and was at the same time the Physical Director of 26 elementary education schools as well as the Assistant track coach for the University. Directly after the Germans took over Latvia there had been a radio announcement, asking for volunteers to exhume and identify the bodies of the victims of Soviet atrocities. In view of the fact that many of Subject's athletes had been unceremoniously shot by the Soviets, Subject volunteered for this job. He states that thousands of bodies were exhumed, from among which Subject identified some twenty friends and athletes. This work of exhuming and identifying bodies continued for approximately two months, after which the volunteers were asked to continue on the Government payroll working for the Latvian Police Force. Subject agreed to this and continued in the police force activity from the summer of 1941 to the summer of 1942. Basically his police work involved

SECRET

SECRET

- 4 -

the investigating of Communists. In the summer of 1942 Subject was nominated for the "highest job" of discovering and fighting of Russian paratroopers and underground agents. Subject states he had under him about 15 to 20 men whom he said he had picked himself. Basically, the job was counter-espionage for the military, and when asked to identify his unit directly, Subject agreed that he worked for the OKW/Abwehr II/Latvian Political "Abteilung"/Investigation Group. Subject did not remember his superior officer, but stated that this individual had been a Latvian Colonel. When asked whether this was Gestapo or the military, Subject insisted it was military counter-intelligence. When asked about his rank, Subject stated that he had no rank but that he was a civilian. In discussing this period of his working for the "investigation group" from the summer of 1942 until August 1943, Subject talked with great animation and pride about his accomplishments. Among others, he stated that he had good sources of information and was, from time to time, able to intercept parachuted agents into Latvia. One of these had been a fairly high level Communist who knew a great number of espionage schools in the Soviet Union and whom Subject broke very easily and got information on Latvian operations which was extremely highly thought of by the German military. It was quite obvious from the way Subject comported himself during this discussion that he was very proud of the work he had done in counter-intelligence. It was further obvious that the operation involving [ ] was an extremely interesting prospect for Subject into which he plunged with the greatest of gusto.

6. Subject states that in August 1943 he asked for release from the investigation group which he had been heading in order to take over his father-in-law's bakery. He states that in 1943 properties which had been held by Germans were returned to the owners, and in view of the fact that his father-in-law was (either dead or deported to the Soviet Union), and because the bakery was fairly large, Subject's wife would not be able to take care of it alone, and he therefore had to take a hand in the management of this enterprise. Subject states that he had all sorts of troubles when he asked for his release, that he was investigated by the Gestapo, and was for a short period arrested. In view of the fact, however, that baking was an enterprise which supported the German armies (among others) and was by the same token a "defense industry", Subject was finally released to manage the business.

7. In July 1944 when the Soviets were about to encircle Riga, Subject with family fled Riga and went to Rucawa, his birthplace and the place where his father had had a farm (Subject states Rucawa is near Liepaja). At the farm, Subject took two horses and proceeded by horse and wagon with family to Memel (Klaipeda), then to Tilsit (now Sovietsk), and thence to Prussia, where he remained until October and was able, through a friend whom he had known in Riga but who was now with the German occupation forces, to get a job in a tank factory. In view of the fact that by this time the

SECRET

SECRET

- 5 -

Soviets were approaching East Prussia, Subject got some travel orders for leave to a place not too far away called "Insterburg". (Subject is not exactly sure that this was the name of the town, but he states that it was something very close to that.) Upon getting his travel orders, Subject changed "Insterburg" to "Innsbruck" (Austria) and then proceeded to Austria via Berlin and Munich. With him he had his wife and his two sons, Yuris and Maris, and Subject states that it took him ten days to arrive in Innsbruck. While making his plan to escape to Innsbruck, Subject had collected various items of food and clothing as well as a couple of bicycles and had packed these into sizeable cartons and thereafter had shipped them to Innsbruck in care of a friend of his who lived in that town. Subject states that when he arrived in Innsbruck, rather than going immediately to his friend's house (he had given me the name, but I didn't note it and have forgotten it), Subject stayed away for 24 hours. During that night there was an American attack on Innsbruck and his friend's house was bombed out. In a week or two, however, he received notification from the post office that there were packages for him and he should pick them up. Because of this, he was in relatively good shape, since he had the food and other needed items. In Innsbruck Subject got a job in a soap factory, but this job did not particularly please him, so that he tried to get a position with the German army as a masseur and a rehabilitation worker in some military hospital. He, however, had no papers authorizing him officially to be in Innsbruck. These, Subject states, he finally got through a Latvian-German who was an official with the German government. Subject had to go to Vienna and to Berlin and later on to East Prussia to get contact with his Latvian-German friend (whose name I have forgotten), and here he states that he was almost captured by the Soviets, who had encircled the town where he had contacted his friend. In order to get away Subject states he had to cross a bay in the Baltic Sea over the ice. He further states that somewhere in the middle the ice had broken, he had fallen into the water, got out, and walked some 20 kilometres over ice and snow in sub-freezing temperatures prior to getting to some farmer where he was taken care of. He states that both of his feet were frozen almost solid. At any rate, he finally returned to Innsbruck, where, with the papers which he had acquired through his friend, he got a job with the German Air Force working in a hospital as a rehabilitation worker, where he stayed until the French took over Tyrol.

8. When the French arrived, Subject was arrested by them because he had been accused of working for the Germans. During the interrogation by a certain Lieutenant fnu MARTEN of the French Army, Subject stated that he was an athlete and a skier and that he had been a champion runner and skier in Free Latvia. In view of the fact that Lt. MARTEN had also been a sportsman and a member of the foremost French skiing club, MARTEN released Subject, permitted him to go home for a few days, and thereafter took him to Paris, where Subject was recruited by the French military as the head coach for

SECRET

SECRET

- 6 -

the Bi-Athlon of the French Army. Subject continued his coaching duties in Austria in the French Occupation Zone, and he states that his army team won over either Norway or Sweden (I forget exactly which one), for which the French Army was very thankful indeed. Subject states that he had all sorts of commendations for his work from the French Army. In his job as coach for the French Army, Subject had to travel from time to time, and he states that in the spring of 1947 while in Switzerland he went to the Chilean Consulate (after trying to get an immigration visa to the United States, Canada and Argentina--all unsuccessfully), and asked for an immigration visa to Chile, providing, of course, his athletic background. He states that the Chileans arranged for an immediate visa (which he says he got in about two weeks or so). Thereafter, Subject went to Paris where he arranged with the IRO for his transportation to Chile. Subject states that during the time that he had been coach for the French Army in Austria, he had gone to an international skiing meet in the Russian Zone under a false name and there had won the Austrian Skiing Championship.

9. After getting everything arranged with the IRO, Subject was about to leave for Chile, and at the point of his boarding the train for Le Havre or leaving the train in that city, he was picked up by the French Security Police at the behest of some Russians and was interrogated by the French Security in the presence of a Soviet observer. Apparently Subject had been accused by the Soviets as having been the "Chief of Gestapo" in Riga during the war. Subject states he began talking about his background and also regarding the Soviet atrocities in Latvia; at this point the French asked the Russian observer to leave the room. After the Soviet left the room, Subject stated that he had been employed with the French Army for the past couple of years and he had received commendations for his work with the French Army athletes. When the security people asked him for some documentary proof of this, he stated that his papers were all already aboard ship at Le Havre. Thereupon, according to Subject, the security people accompanied him and family to the ship where Subject showed them his commendation from the French Army. Thereafter, according to Subject, he was treated by the French Security to a good steak dinner and good wine, and was released, boarded the ship and took off for Chile. (Subject states that the French held up the departure of the ship pending the conclusion of his interrogation.)

10. In Chile, Subject worked himself up to being the head coach of the Chilean Olympic Team and was very highly regarded by the athletic circles, not only in Chile but in other areas of Latin America as well.

11. After the Melbourne Olympics, Subject came to the U. S. with a film of these Olympics and made a tour of various areas of the U. S. where he showed the film. On this tour he met Ted E. WYMAN, who was then the athletic director for the Denver University. During these meetings, he got to know WYMAN very well and WYMAN arranged for a scholarship to Denver for Subject's son Yuris. Additionally, apparently, he tried to present himself to WYMAN

SECRET

SECRET

- 7 -

in the best light, also. At any rate, in 1959, through his friendship with WYMAN plus Subject's son's (Yuris') activities at Denver, Subject was granted a contract as an assistant coach and Physical Education teacher at Denver University, where he has been since that time.

12. Subject looks every inch a coach--or at least what a coach is supposed to look like. He is about 5'10" tall, well-proportioned, sturdy, strong, has a full head of silver-gray hair, blue eyes, a delicately aquiline nose, beautiful teeth, walks with a youthful spring, and has a deep, reddish tan. During the entire time that he was contacting [ ] or attending the meets or warm-ups, Subject was always dressed in a sports shirt, with a large athletic emblem showing him to be an athletic coach--this emblem was actually sewed onto his shirts. Nowhere did the emblem indicate that Subject belonged to the Denver University. Subject struck me as a very intelligent and shrewd individual. He is quite articulate, but his English is not perfect, although he is fluent; from time to time Germanisms would creep into his conversation, although it is possible that he was more free in his German substitutions for English words which he lacked because of the fact that he knew that I knew German. As mentioned above, Subject was very happy indeed, even anxious, to help out on the [ ] operation, stating that it was nice to get into the harness again and do something for the West, and particularly against "those dirty Russian dogs". Subject stated he hates Communism and all that it stands for, and he has a particular hate against the Soviet regime, since he states that that regime was responsible for the death of his parents. (His father died in a Soviet concentration camp in Siberia.) Throughout all our conversations, Subject appeared to be completely straight-forward in his answers and was willing to talk at length on any aspect.

13. Cover: Subject had been called at his hotel in Palo Alto (Hotel New Cardinal, 235 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California; room 221; telephone: Davenport 3-5101) and told that he would be contacted by a [ ] [ ] after 2200 hours on Wednesday, 18 July. Actually, I called him almost at 2300 hours that day and even before announcing my name, he apparently realized who I was and stated that everything was in order and he had already been able to see "his friend". At 0900 the following morning, 19 July, I came to his room, introduced myself as [ ] and stated that I was from the U. S. Government. I did not present any credentials, nor did Subject ask for any; at no time during our contacts did I mention that I was from CIA, nor did Subject ask. Of course, it immediately became obvious to him (perhaps even before I ever came on the scene) that Subject was in contact with the American Intelligence; but whether he knows that it is CIA or not would be difficult to say. I didn't tell him that I was, but he may assume so. The go-between in this contact had been, of course, [ ] with whom we have been in operational contact for some

SECRET

SECRET

- 8 -

time now. [

14. Future Operational Contact Targeted Against [ ] Subject agreed that he would be more than glad to contact [ ] at any time and any place that we wished. When asked whether Subject would normally go for the invitational meet to Tokyo in September 1963, he said that in all probability he would not even be considered as a coach for the American team. He said, however, that conceivably he could be taken as a trainer (apparently a masseur), but he was not sure that the American team--which will be very small--would have a trainer along or not; even if it did have a trainer, Subject did not think that he would be chosen by the AAU unless we put in a good word for him. He stated that should we desire to exert any sort of influence in regard to his travel in 1963 we should in all probability get in contact with Louis J. FISHER (New York City), who is the President of the AAU, Track Division, and who is the final word in deciding as to who will go to any particular meet, both athletes and coaches. In regard to the 1963 meet, Subject feels that he could conceivably attend "on his own" without anyone being particularly surprised or "raising their eyebrows". The only problem here, of course, would be where an ordinary Physical Education teacher from an ordinary university would get enough money on his own to spend on a trip to Tokyo merely to "study" the techniques of international teams in a pre-Olympic try-out. Subject stated, however, that he was bound to go to the 1964 Olympics and this on his own. He and his wife have already been saving money for this event. Of course Subject will want to attend these Olympics because he is sure that his son, Yuris, will participate and because of this it would be very natural for him to go to these events. Subject further showed his willingness to go to the European Championship Meets in Belgrade in the latter part of August of this year. In regard to this, however, I said that it is out of the question for us to send him to an Iron Curtain country, and if he asked our advice regarding going on his own that my immediate reaction would be that it would be much better for him not to attend.

15. Commo: Subject was given the following address to write to us:

SECRET



SECRET

- 9 -

Additionally, he was given an ops phone: [ ] [ ] He was told to contact [ ] [ ] on the telephone. Subject was not sure regarding his future movements in the next couple of weeks. He thought that he might not return to Alaska, but that he might instead get a job for the rest of the summer in the San Francisco area. The reason for this was that he could not return to his home in Denver to get a summer job since none were available there, and he questioned the wisdom of returning to Alaska merely for a few weeks, then to take his car to Denver. Instead he tentatively thought that he would have his car, which is in Anchorage, transported to the San Francisco area by some individual who was going to make the trip anyway, and when the car arrived in the San Francisco area Subject would then take it to Denver without returning to Alaska. For the first week after the meeting, Subject said that he might stay with his friend, a fellow Latvian whom Subject has known for many years even when they both had still been in Latvia: Vilis PASTENIEKS, 820 Lincoln Avenue, Palo Alto, telephone: Davenport 5-0501. In Latvia PASTENIEKS had been a professional soldier, a sergeant in the Latvian Army, had come to the U. S. about 1950, was born about 1905 or 1906. PASTENIEKS is married and has one son, Janis, 21 years of age, who is married and who lives in nearby San Jose. Janis got married with an American girl. According to Subject, PASTENIEKS is employed for the past 12 years as a gardener of the Sunset Magazine in Palo Alto.

16. Finances: During some of our conversations with Subject he mentioned in passing that he is hard up for cash because of the various payments on his car and on his house in Denver. Accordingly, since he had done a good job for us in Palo Alto, in addition to the \$500 which we had sent him by telegram I gave him \$284. Of this, some was for additional expenses (i.e., rental of ops vehicle) and approximately \$300 was given to him as a bonus for his good work, although we called it "loss of pay" during our conversations. All told then (including the money which we telegraphed to him), we gave this man \$784 for his travel and for participating in the operation. Actually I had made a mistake because in totalling his expenditures I counted his hotel to be \$60 and in addition to that I counted six days of per diem at \$15. The other sums were \$60 for car rental and \$24 for car mileage, plus \$300 for air transportation. This totalled \$534, and in addition to this I gave him specifically \$250 for "loss of pay" making a grand total of \$784. Actually, according to these figures, had I not made the mistake of adding an additional \$60 for the hotel, the grand total should have come to \$724. I'm mentioning this in the report because it was Subject's clear understanding that I was giving him \$250 for his loss of pay and not (in actuality) \$310, so that in future conversations with him, in all probability the figure of \$250 should be mentioned if it is necessary

SECRET

SECRET

- 10 -

to mention any figure at all.

17. Conclusion: In toto, Subject proved to be a very willing and, I might say, able operator. It goes without question that he can be called upon in the future to cooperate in the present case [ ] or in any other operation which comes up in the future. Obviously, his best targets would be individuals participating in athletic events, particularly in track events.

18. In discussing his participation in intelligence activities during World War II, Subject stated that when he applied for his visa to the U. S. from Chile he did not mention this participation on any of the forms and he asked me whether he should have done so. I told him that of course he should have had, because otherwise there is always the chance that he might get into trouble about it. He further asked me whether when he applies for his citizenship he should admit to his former intelligence connections. I told him that I couldn't advise him on this matter, and that he should leave it to his conscience whether he should or should not report these facts. I did tell him, however, that we would take no steps to compromise him with the Immigration Service. (We should investigate with our security in regard to what we should do regarding Subject and his actually fraudulent entry into the U. S. In view of the fact that he did such a good job for us in Stanford and will further be useful in contacting [ ] in the future, it seems to me that we might consider PL-110 or any other avenue which might be suggested by our security.)

Chief, SR/2/Baltic

SECRET