

DUBIOUS CONTACTS OF SUBJECT IN U.S.A. AND ABRGAD:

Jacques ROSENSTEIN

One of MALAXA's acknowledged associates is a certain Jacques ROSENSTEIN, ~~Swiss citizen (Nato check)~~ with business offices in New York, N. Y. *and interests in Switzerland.*

According to a report ^{FBI} ~~from the FBI~~, dated 9 March 1949, of an interview with MALAXA, the latter admitted that he had purchased numerous automobiles in the United States. He listed several of these purchases and their ultimate recipients, including "one Cadillac given to Dr. Jacques ROSENSTEIN, as a gift."

The name of Jacques ROSENSTEIN has appeared in several recent cases involving suspicion of illegal east-west trade. He ~~was~~ was in 1950 from New York reliably reported to be ~~was~~ directing the activities of the Internationale Kapital-Anlagen Gesellschaft of Basel (IKAP), a firm which was founded in 1934 or 1935 by members of the La ROCHE banking family to which he is related by marriage. IKAP claims to finance foreign trade transactions, to obtain assets for loans abroad, and to engage in clearing blocked accounts held by foreign nationals in Switzerland and elsewhere. However, IKAP is reported to be notorious in Swiss business circles for financing exports to Russia's eastern satellites, particularly Czechoslovakia, and for the consummation of large-scale deals involving east-west trade. ROSENSTEIN's principal agent, a member of the firm in Switzerland, is reliably reported to have instructed a Viennese lawyer, in January 1950, to assist him in the purchase of shares in the Vereinigte Glanzstoff-Fabrik A.G. of St. Pölten, Russian Zone of Austria, and to have been working at the same time with a well

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known Hungarian promoter on certain commodities exchange transactions involving Italy, Russia and the United States. ROSENSTEIN, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ is reported to have facilitated his principal agent's operations by means of bribing persons in high places. ROSENSTEIN is elsewhere reliably described as "the chief economic collaborator of the present Hungarian government in the U.S." His name is closely linked ~~to~~ with certain deals involving transshipment of radar through Switzerland from the west to Hungary. *in 1947 and 1948*

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According to a source who was interviewed by the FBI in September 1951 (NY 105-2578) ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Jacques ROSENSTEIN is a close friend of Nicolae MALAXA. The latter, source stated, sent money to one Maxim MAXIMO (see below) through ROSENSTEIN.

DATA ON CONTACTS OF SUBJECT

Maxim MAXIMO, alias of Max EDELSTEIN.

Max EDELSTEIN, better known as Maxim MAXIMO, is a Rumanian born at Iasi in 1896. He is known to the INTERPOL, Paris ^{names} under these/and other aliases as an international swindler. Since the war / MAXIMO has been expelled from France, Switzerland and Italy chiefly on the grounds of evidence of Soviet intelligence activity. Among his many questionable deals was the promotion of the gambling casino ~~in~~ in the Republic of San Marino, with the sanction of the Communist-dominated government in 1950. He is known to have admitted doing business for the Communists in Rumania and was associated in Switzerland, in the firm known as "OFINA ~~OFINA~~ A.G.", with Solvan VITIANU, ^{Rumanian} who was later uncovered as a Communist agent and sentenced to prison.

Various sources have indicated from time to time that MAXIMO was a representative of MALAXA in Europe. ~~From [unclear]~~ That there has been, and may still be, some form of collaboration between MAXIMO and MALAXA is indicated by such statements as that contained in a letter to MAXIMO from Oscar COLCAIRE, who was retained in an advisory capacity by MALAXA in ^{Washington} the United States. The letter, which indicates ~~MAXIMO's~~ a previously expressed desire on the part of MAXIMO to set up a radio station (locality not indicated) in Europe with American capital, goes on to say:

"I always consider you my friend and I hope that you will

feel the same way about me. Your attempt to do business with the Communists in Rumania and your association with VIZIANU (n.b. VITIANU) in Switzerland of course has left a black spot against your record in the United States.....

"In the meantime, any way in which I can be of help, you know well that I will do. I will not work against MALAXA but I firmly believe that it will be to your future interest to work with him. He is a strong and brilliant man and he has gathered many Americans around him who are powerful and who believe in him and are helping him in his defense against the attacks of his Rumanian enemies here. There is no doubt in my mind that he will win. I understand that you have a question with him but I know none of the details. He has never spoken to me against you in any way. If you feel that you have a just claim, why don't you write me all of the details and what you want and why you believe you should have it..... The important thing is to keep in good relations with Mr. MALAXA as I think that you will benefit in the end."

ALEXANDER BOTEZ GAMBOA

This individual, a Rumanian who claims Cuban citizenship, and is also known as Alexander BOTEZ and as Alexander BOTEZ-DONICI, is known to be one of the principals in a ~~group~~ widespread group of east-west traders operating chiefly via Italy/ He and his wife are believed to be in the United States. ^{at present} There is considerable material of a derogatory nature on this man in the files of this Agency as well as the FBI and, it is believed, ^{the} Department of State. ~~Silov~~ ^{in 1949}

According to information received here, BOTEZ was then reportedly in close contact with MALAXA. He is also described as an intimate friend of Irina and Gheorghe PALADE, MALAXA's daughter and son-in-law.