

~~SECRET~~

8 May 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: James Speyer KRONTHAL; *Newsweek* Article of
15 May 1989, Entitled: "The Soviet's
First CIA Mole"

1. On 8 May, Dick Helms told me the following concerning:

JAMES SPEYER KRONTHAL.

Dick knew KRONTHAL very well. KRONTHAL was a former OSS officer who served for us [redacted] and, indeed, committed suicide, probably in 1952. He was a bachelor and Dick thinks he probably was a homosexual. One day he did not show up for work and several employees went to his home and found him dead in bed. He evidently had taken something, but an autopsy was unable to determine what substance was in his system.

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There was no thought whatsoever given to him being a spy for the Soviets. Dick recalls that the polygraph at the time was uncovering cases of homosexuality, and Dick speculates that perhaps KRONTHAL realized he had no future with the Agency because of his homosexuality and committed suicide.

2. All portions of this document are classified SECRET.

Gardner R. Hathaway
Associate Deputy Director for Operations
for Counterintelligence

Attachment:

Newsweek Article of
15 May 1989

cc: DC/CIC/AG w/att
ADDO/CI/GRHathaway/[redacted] (8 May 89)
Distribution:

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(b)(3)

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