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SECRET-3/76/1354

QP

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Inspector General
USAF
Attention: Mr. Gilbert R. Levy

File in 100-2-82

FROM: Deputy Director, Plans

- SUBJECTS:
- a. Czechoslovakian Independent Weekly
 - b. BIRCHWOOD, M. V. O. (Lord)
 - c. Free Czechoslovak Information Service (FCI)
aka Information Service of Free Czechoslovakia (ISFC)
 - d. JUSTIN, J. 201 2413
(JUSTIN, Josef)
true name STEIN, Josef
alias "DUBEN"
 - e. GILLES, H. G. (Lieutenant Colonel)

1. Reference is made to the telephone requests dated 15 August 1960, of Captain Malone for information concerning Subjects. The files contain no pertinent identifiable information concerning a/b listed above. Data relating to c/e is set forth below.

2. Free Czechoslovak Information Service (FCI) aka Information Service of Free Czechoslovakia (ISFC)

a. A letter of solicitation dated 19 February 1949, bearing the letterhead "Information Service of Free Czechoslovakia, 21 Regent's Square, London, E. W. 10", England, An Independent indicated that the ISFC published a bulletin which, according to the writer and editor of the publication, Josef JUSTIN, was a factual report of events, drawn up by a professional

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News Service in London. It published a weekly bulletin composed NOT TO BE DISSEMINATED FURTHER OR EXMITTED TO ANYONE WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.
if views items are changed, correct and situations relative to Czechoslovakia rights of its people. Enclosed

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31 Aug 66

100-2-82

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METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

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Czechoslovak journalist and his English wife, with the assistance of a wide network of correspondents on both sides of the Iron Curtain. It enjoyed the support of no single political party, but was morally supported by over one hundred former Czechoslovak diplomats, politicians, journalists, and civil servants of democratic conviction. Its aim was "a free Czechoslovakia in a free world".

b. Under the letterhead of the Council of Free Czechoslovakia, 2051 Park Road, N.W., Washington, D.C., a letter signed by Dr. M. HANEK, Secretary, described the FCI as an independent news service in London, England. It published a weekly bulletin composed of news items on current events and situations relative to Czechoslovakia and the plight of its people. According to the letter, the FCI printed accounts written by individuals who had escaped from Czechoslovakia and brought to the attention of its readers salient occurrences in the struggle of Czechoslovakia in exile for the restoration of democracy in their country. Operating under numerous technical difficulties, and with an extremely limited staff, FCI's main source of information, the letter indicated, was a network of individuals who, in Czechoslovakia, and at considerable personal risk, reported on the happenings in their country. The FCI's primary purpose was to supply news items to press agencies, newspapers, and interested individuals.

c. For possible additional information concerning the FCI, you are referred to:

1. Department of the Army report No. I-2068, dated 19 January 1951, from the 66th CIC detachment, Region I, subject: SRIVILIKIA, Mail: Es; Czech Resident Agent Connected with the SRV. Info Passed to USAF.

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2. Department of State, Incoming
Telegram No. 1725, dated 18 November
1949 from Prague (no additional
documentation available).

3. The Federal Bureau of Investigation

3. JOSTIN, J. (JOSTEN, Josef) alias STEIN, Josef alias
"DUBEN"

a. A report dated 4 October 1951 from a reliable source indicated that during World War II Josef JOSTEN /born 25 March 1913 in Prague, Czechoslovakia/ received a temporary, war-time appointment to the Press Section of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs in London. Upon the termination of hostilities JOSTEN transferred from London to Radio Luxemburg where he worked on Czechoslovak broadcasts. At that time Radio Luxemburg was operated by the Allies on lines similar to those of the Voice of America. He returned to Prague about 1946-1947, and obtained employment in the Press Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After the Coup he escaped from Czechoslovakia and proceeded to England. Subsequently, in London, JOSTEN headed a publication and press agency. This enterprise was a private affair operated by him and his British-born wife. It had no direct relations with any exile organizations, which, at times, were critical of JOSTEN for publishing items that were sometimes uncomplimentary to /unspecified/ political leaders abroad. JOSTEN enjoyed a good reputation, although he was, upon occasion, reproached for being somewhat sensational and indiscriminating in his reporting.

b. A report which appeared to be a compilation of data gleaned from emigre circles, dated 30 June 1954, from a source of undetermined reliability indicated that /during World War II/ Joe STEIN alias JOSTEN worked in the Czechoslovak Section

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of the British Broadcasting Company. *Info passed to CSAP*
According to source, this Section, headed
by one Vavro HAJDU, a Slovak Communist, *Reported headed*
was composed mainly of Communists. *On the same Section of*
1 September 1954, the same source reported
that, according to the Czechoslovak monthly
Bohemia (No. 22-23, 1943), published in
Munich, Germany, by Vladimir STERNIKSKI,
right-wing Czechoslovak exile politician, *Reported*
whose reporting is generally unreliable,
J. JOSTEN, a former Communist agent in the
British Broadcasting Company and publisher
of The Czechoslovak Abroad, in London,
was associated with one Professor Bohumil
CERNY, a Soviet Agent. *Info passed to CSAP.*

c. According to a report dated 7 January
1955 from an official intelligence service
connected with a friendly western power, at
some time after 1945, J. JOSTEN, whose
true name is Josef STEIN, served in the
Czechoslovak Propaganda Ministry in Prague
under a certain KOPECKY. He subsequently
went to London and became editor of the
publications Czechoslovak and Information
Service. In London newspaper circles
JOSTEN had a reputation for having good
information about Czechoslovakia; he allegedly
claimed that his connections reached the
anteroom of Antonin SAFOTOCKY, President of
the Czechoslovak Presidium.

d. Information received in a report dated
6 July 1955 from an official West German
service, indicated that Josef JOSTEN,
journalist and publisher of the newspaper
Czechoslovak, was assigned by one Major
BENELLY to set up an information organiza-
tion in West Germany. Source believed that
the organization in question was to be a
journalistic information bureau.

e. The name of one Josef Israel STEIN, who
may possibly be identifiable with Josef
JOSTEN, appeared on a list of persons who
were considered unreliable and/or of
individuals engaged in Communist activities

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in 1919 or later. This list was compiled during the period 1941-1943 by the then anti-Communist and right-wing Hungarian Government from unknown sources for the guidance of the Hungarian consular staffs in the issuance of visas and passports. STEIN, who was born at Prague in 1913, was described as a Czechoslovakian Jew and a journalist. Prior to his expulsion in 1939, STEIN had served as a police captain in Ersekujvari /Neve-Zanky/, Hungary.

f. For additional information concerning Josef JUSTEN it is suggested that you refer to the following:

1. Department of the Army memorandum, dated 23 March 1948, from Headquarters, Region V, Regensburg, CIC, subject: Josef JUSTEN; Re: Illegal Border Crossing.

2. The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

4. GILES, H. G. (Lieutenant Colonel)

For information concerning one Lieutenant Colonel GILES who might possibly be identifiable with Subject, you are referred to:

Department of the Army, CIC Case No. 112-L-6, dated 28-1-1943, subject: GILES (Lieutenant Colonel) - Espionage, Beirut.

CSCI-3/761,354

RID/CE: JWE/JCG/wmh

Based On: 20-6-1-58y1

100-134-5.3, 2-9-49

[] (SI-8668, 12-1-51)

(State Telegram and FBI ref.)

CSLQ-149

100-134-5.3-26

EGLA 12137

EGLA 14747

Hungarian Black Book

20-6-1-2y2

CIC Index Card

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RETURN TO RE/4/00 - 2813 L

S-E-C-R-E-T

PRIORITY URGENT

TELEPHONE REQUESTS FOR NAME CHECK. FOR USE OF RI NAME CHECK CONTROL OFFICER

FROM OSI (Capt. Malone via CI-Helen)

DATE 15 Aug. 1960

TAKEN BY: CHECKED BY: _____ REPLY _____

[Handwritten initials]
 Czechoslovakian Independent Weekly. *[Handwritten initials]*
 NAME VaK-N ALIASES AND EPITHETS VARIATIONS
 VAKIA-N
 CZECH-N
 DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

OTHER IDENTIFYING DATA

REFERENCES:

A publication located at 54 Holland Road,
 Kensington, London W. 14. *In Co. Passed to USAF.*
 All info.

*NP/1
16 AUG 1960
97*

*RI/AE
per phone
NP/1*

(3)

*16 Aug 60
RI/IMP
C-28
NP/1
S-E-C-R-E-T
CS COPY*

*NP/1
per phone
31 Aug 60*

encl. 1 - CSCI - 3761354

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S-E-C-R-E-T

PRIORITY URGENT

TELEPHONE REQUESTS FOR NAME CHECK. FOR USE OF RI NAME CHECK CONTROL OFFICER

FROM OSI (Capt. Malone via CI-Helen)

DATE 15 Aug. 1960

TAKEN BY: [] CHECKED BY: _____ REPLY _____

(Lord) BIRDWOOD, M. V. O. C.I.F. England

NAME ALIASES AND SPELLING VARIATIONS

None available.

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

OTHER IDENTIFYING DATA

REFERENCES:

Director of F.C.I. and the Czechoslovakian Independent Weekly at 54 Holland Road, Kensington, London W. 14. England Info Passed USAF
All info.

IN-134-309/2-52
NW 6842/1
NOT AVAILABLE

NP11
22 AUG 1960
97

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S-E-C-R-E-T

ES 6/2

Ref
15 Aug 60
103

Sub-2-C501-3761354

100-2-82

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PRIORITY URGENT

TELEPHONE REQUESTS FOR NAME CHECK. FOR USE OF RI NAME CHECK CONTROL OFFICER

FROM OSI (Capt. Malone via CI-Helen)

DATE 15 Aug. 1960

TAKEN BY: []

CHECKED BY: _____ REPLY _____

F. C. I.

NAME

ALIASES AND SPELLING VARIATIONS

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

OTHER IDENTIFYING DATA

A publication located at 54 Holland Road,

REFERENCES:

Kensington, London W. 14.

All info.

MEMORANDUM COORDINATION		
Date 24 AUG 1960 INITIALS		
RI ANALYST		JCG
DIR.	BRANCH	
CE	6	WKF
WE	6	WKF
RI EDITOR		JCG
RI TYPIST		

See att'd memo, pgs. 1 & 2

16 Aug 60
R/lim
C/S
Jf

R/lim
P...
Phone
NPII

Approved by
NPII
S...
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PRIORITY URGENT

TELEPHONE REQUESTS FOR NAME CHECK. FOR USE OF RI NAME CHECK CONTROL OFFICER

FROM OSI (Capt. Malone via CI-Helen)

DATE 15 Aug. 1960

TAKEN BY: C J

CHECKED BY:

REPLY

GILES, H. G. (Lt. Col.) *CLT DK*

NAME

ALPHABET AND SPELLING VARIATIONS

None available.

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

OTHER IDENTIFYING DATA

REFERENCES:

Director of F.C.I. and the Czechoslovakian Inde-

pendent Weekly located at 54 Holland Road,

Kensington, London W. 14, England *Interposed*

All info. *USAF*

*Refund to Army
See att'd. memo., para 4*

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3 Aug 60

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