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SECURITY INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

2 January 1952

SUBJECT: Project 63 Personnel Now in the U. S.

REFERENCE: Conversation between [] and Col. B. W. Heckemeyer,
Chief, JIOA on 29 December 1951

Not in

1. Purpose of reference conversation was primarily with regard to the interest of Professor Heinrich Koffler of Purdue University in Professor Helmuth Ruska (see attached copy of teletype from Chicago Field Office of OO/C.) Col. Heckemeyer cleared the visit of Professor Ruska to Purdue University. He stated furthermore that the Services did not have a spot at present for the employment of Professor Ruska and he would be grateful if we could make arrangements through Professor Koffler for Ruska's employment at Purdue.

2. Col. William H. Speidel, Hotel Alamac, Broadway at 76th Street, New York City is the Director of Project 63, and Project 63 personnel come under his jurisdiction. There are, at present, 12 German scientists in the U. S. under this project and 30 more in Germany who are under contract. These scientists come into the U. S. under military jurisdiction and under the general jurisdiction of JIOA. They do not have diplomatic passports. They are brought here primarily for employment by the military Services. If, however, these Services have no spot for them, JIOA attempts to place them in private institutions, universities, or industry. Col. Heckemeyer stated that Project 63 personnel are supposed to be top-flight German scientists. The reasons for bringing them to the U. S. are: 1) To prevent the Russians from inducing them to go to the East Zone of Germany, or to Russia. Theoretically these scientists are not usefully occupied in Germany, have no funds to subsist on, and might be subject to such inducement. 2) Their previous work has qualified them for useful occupation by the Services. They are only placed privately if they can not be so utilized.

3. They remain under military jurisdiction after they are hired and until it is clearly shown that they are working out satisfactorily, after which JIOA takes the necessary steps to legalize their stay in the U. S. either through the required passport procedure or through naturalization. When they travel around the U. S., they must travel with military escort. If they are placed outside of New York, the military jurisdiction will be transferred to the local area such as a ROTC setup at a university. This military jurisdiction does not limit their movement and is not generally evident. It amounts to the military keeping an eye on them and their activities to see that they do not enter into anything subversive or detrimental to the U. S. and to see how they are adjusting to life in America.

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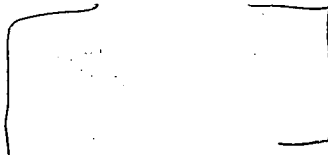
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4. The procedure to be followed with regard to Ruska, and which will apply generally to other similar cases is as follows: Col. Heckemeyer telephoned, 29 December 1951, to a Lt. Cooper in G-2 to authorize Col. Speidel to arrange the trip of Ruska to Purdue, for which trip JIOA will pay. Col. Speidel will furnish the military escort. [] of OO/C will request the Chicago Office to contact Professor Koffler as to the date which is convenient to him. When this information is received, [] will have the New York Office contact Col. Speidel to make the necessary arrangements and will inform the Chicago Office of these arrangements so that Professor Koffler may be notified. He will also tell the Chicago Office of JIOA's desire to have Ruska employed by Purdue University, if possible.

5. Biographic Register, OCD [] has the background data on all Project 63 personnel in this country. Col. Heckemeyer said that there is no reason why we can not interrogate these people if we wish but he suggests that we make arrangements through him because of the military jurisdiction aspect and also because most of these people are employed by the Services who might impose some objection to CIA interrogation if such application were made direct. This has been our experience with some of the Paperclip people. Col. Heckemeyer is very cooperative and I feel sure will work with us in every possible way, particularly on a quid pro quo basis if we place some of his strays.



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