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| <b>DISPATCH</b>   |  | CLASSIFICATION<br>S E C R E T  | DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO.<br>EGMA 57366                |
| TO<br>INFO  | Chief, IO (Attn: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/><br>Chief, EE<br>Chief of Station, Germany | HEADQUARTERS FILE NO.<br>200-124-39/3<br><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> File: RLS/572 |  |
| FROM  | Chief, Munich Operations Group   | DATE<br>12 January 1962  |  |
| SUBJECT   | CAMOG/DTDORIC/QKACTIVE/Operations<br>Transmittal of PBCHORD Documents  | RE: "43-3" - (CHECK "X" ONE)   |  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> MARKED FOR INDEXING   |  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> NO INDEXING REQUIRED  |  |
| ACTION REQUIRED   | <i>re Alexei KUSNETSOV</i>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  | INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED<br>BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY |
| REFERENCE(S)  | <i>ok, Alexej ZOTOW</i>  |  |  |
| <p>1. Forwarded under separate cover in true name pouch is <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> excellent review of a difficult security case which should be used as a basis for reopening the case and a reconsideration of the security disapproval.</p> <p>2. For what it is worth, <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> seconds <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> conclusions and request for reconsideration.</p> |  |  |  |
| <p>Attachments: Under Separate Cover<br/>PBCHORD Documents</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <b>DOC FORWARDED V/O S/C<br/>BY RED/AN 23 JAN 1962</b> </p> <p>Distribution:<br/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-IO w/atts<br/> 1-EE wo/atts<br/> 2-COS/G wo/atts</p>  |  |  |  |
| DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY<br>CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY<br>SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B<br>NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT<br>DATE 2007  |  |  |  |
| FORM<br>10-57 53<br>(40)  | USE PREVIOUS EDITION.<br>REPLACES FORMS<br>51-28, 51-28A AND 51-29<br>WHICH ARE OBSOLETE.                    | CLASSIFICATION<br>S E C R E T  | PAGE NO.<br><input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUED       |

CS COPY

200-124-39/3

19 December 1961

SUBJECT: Aleksei KUSNETSOV  
AKA: Alexej ZOTOW  
DOB: 29 March 1921 (also reported as 29 March 1917)  
POB: Koverino, Ryazanskaya Oblast, USSR (also reported as  
Woronezh, Russia)

The SUBJECT was employed by AMCOMLIB on 27 April 1956. In September 1956 Headquarters advised that he had been security disapproved and requested that his termination be effected. Headquarters was in turn requested to review the derogatory information involved, which was not felt by the then Security Officer, [ ] to constitute sufficient grounds for termination. It should be noted that other project officials also felt that the information developed regarding the SUBJECT was of minimal significance. In December 1957 the decision to disapprove ZOTOW was reaffirmed by Headquarters.

Following my arrival in December 1958, it was noted that SUBJECT was still employed as a Monitor by AMCOMLIB. In March 1959 I asked for a review of the matter by Headquarters. In November 1959 I was advised that the original decision to disapprove was again reaffirmed. In making the above-cited request for review in March 1959, I mentioned generally the SUBJECT's sustained outstanding performance and the highly favorable appraisal of his work and character by Project officials. No effort was made to comment specifically on the derogatory information per se. For this reason, it is felt that this derogatory information should be examined at this time.

In addition to the requested re-examination of the information, Headquarters is reminded that SUBJECT has been rated an outstanding employee ever since his employment at AMCOMLIB began. For this reason, Paul E. MOELLER, European Counsel, states that "based upon his length of service and well-documented record of performance at exemplary levels over a long period of time, any effort to terminate him would be unsuccessful if he took the case to the German Labor Courts." It is my belief that Headquarters may find that the alleged derogatory information is not in itself sufficient grounds for disapproval of the SUBJECT. The comments of Counsel are added not to give weight to this opinion but to further identify the problem involved in effecting the termination of the SUBJECT.

The derogatory information regarding the SUBJECT can be summarized as follows:

- (1) He was a Komsomol member from 1936 to 1942.
- (2) He allegedly has a father, mother, two sisters and two brothers residing in the USSR.
- (3) He was a lieutenant in the Soviet Army from 1938 to 1943.
- (4) He was rejected for immigration to the U.S.
- (5) He allegedly collaborated with the Soviet Repatriation Commission in Munich in 1947.
- (6) He allegedly posed "unskillfully" as an anti-Bolshevist while in reality he was pro-Soviet.
- (7) He allegedly introduced a Soviet agent into NTS circles.

In the interests of clarity, effort will be made to treat these allegations individually. Some overlap and repetition will be unavoidable, however.

- (1) The SUBJECT was a Komsomol member from 1936 to 1942.

ZOTOW (who changed his name from KUZNETSOV to ZOTOW in 1945 to avoid repatriation to the USSR) joined the Komsomol in 1936. In 1939 he was a candidate for the Communist Party. In 1942 he was excluded from the Komsomol for non-payment of dues. The SUBJECT admits having been a Komsomol member and CP candidate.

Membership per se, either in the Komsomol or the CP, has never been regarded as sufficient grounds for security disapproval of applicants for employment with AMCOMLIB. We have numerous former Komsomol and CP members currently in our employ. By definition and by policy, we must encourage the employment of former Soviet citizens. Some of these individuals will unfortunately have been former Komsomol or CP members. To the degree possible, such individuals are thoroughly screened and processed. In the SUBJECT's case we can only point to over ten years of service in organizations (NTS and AMCOMLIB) which are anti-Communist in concept, organization, and operation. During the five years he has worked for AMCOMLIB there has been no indication of pro-Soviet sentiment or activity and no information has come to the attention of MOG which reflects unfavorably upon the SUBJECT. On the contrary, all supervisors who have worked with him regard the SUBJECT as an active anti-Communist and a review of the MOG/CE materials available are, upon analysis, favorable to him.

- (2) The SUBJECT allegedly has a father, mother, two sisters and two brothers residing in the USSR.

Inquiry through the SUBJECT's supervisor reflects that he believes his parents, two sisters and two brothers still reside in the Soviet Union. He states that he has not corresponded with them and that

he has had no communication from them over the past several years. SUBJECT's comments on interview are set out later in this report.

Almost without exception, the over two hundred emigre employees at AMCOMLIB have close relatives in the Soviet Union. Again, since it is policy to encourage defectors from the Soviet Union to work for AMCOMLIB, it would appear unrealistic to consider as grounds for disapproval the fact that an applicant or employee has relatives there. In the absence of any indication (through all available sources) that the SUBJECT has had any contact whatever with his family, the fact that he does have family there would not appear, in these circumstances, overly significant.

(3) The SUBJECT was a lieutenant in the Soviet Army from 1938 to 1943.

ZOTOW was a member of the Soviet Army and was an officer on various sectors of the front from 1941 to 1943. In the early part of 1943 he was taken prisoner by the Germans and in November of that year became active in the Russkaya Oswoboditeljnaya Armya (Vlassov Army) as a propagandist. The Vlassov Army was the anti-Soviet Army recruited by the Germans from the ranks of the Soviet prisoners of war.

Former membership in the Soviet Army (as former membership in the Komsomol or having a family in the Soviet Union) cannot in itself be regarded as a significant security factor. Nor are these elements in the conglomerate any more significant than when considered individually.

In the initial days of AMCOMLIB, the former Vlassov Army group was regarded as one of the significant anti-Soviet political organizations in the West and they were accordingly drawn into the proposed anti-Communist "Center" from which AMCOMLIB evolved. Although not every Vlassovite was an authentic anti-Communist fighter (as in every such group of prisoners, some were merely opportunists) those who have remained active in the anti-Communist struggle (and certainly the SUBJECT fits this description) can readily be regarded as genuine anti-Communists. We have many former Soviet military men in our employ (including a former Soviet Naval Intelligence Officer). AMCOMLIB policy directs that we do all we can to locate such individuals and, if qualified and cleared, employ them. Certainly military service in the Soviet Union does not preclude employment here. It is equally certain that membership in the Vlassov Army should be regarded as indicative of anti-Soviet rather than pro-Soviet orientation.

(4) The SUBJECT was rejected for immigration to the U.S.

Note: It is believed that information may be available to Headquarters indicating that the SUBJECT was refused a visa to the U.S. in 1951. No such information is available through the American Consulate General (AMCONGEN), Munich, or in other materials available here.

The SUBJECT's file at AMCONGEN, Munich reflects that he was refused a visa for immigration to the U.S. on November 15, 1956. The refusal was based upon Section 212 (a)(28) of Public Law 414. It

is specified that the SUBJECT was refused a visa because of his acknowledged membership in the Komsomol and OSOAVIAKIM. (OSOAVIAKIM is the "Society for Cooperative Action against Chemical Warfare" and the SUBJECT was a member from 1933 to 1937.) Notice of this refusal of SUBJECT's visa application was forwarded to the Department of State on November 27, 1956 by AMCONGEN, Munich.

SUBJECT's file further reflects that in an interview conducted regarding his visa application SUBJECT informed the interviewing official that he had joined the Komsomol to better his future prospects and to help him overcome his "bourgeois background."

In March 1957 the SUBJECT's case was reviewed for the TOLSTOY FOUNDATION by AMCONGEN, Munich. At that time the TOLSTOY official handling SUBJECT's case was advised that the Department of State would reconsider the SUBJECT's case if it could be shown that for five years the SUBJECT has been "actively opposed to the doctrine, program, principles and ideology" of the Komsomol.

It can only be commented here that SUBJECT has in fact produced such references demonstrating his service for over five years in anti-Communist organizations. Although listed separately, we are again dealing here with the same information as cited above: membership in the Komsomol. Again, membership in the Komsomol has never been regarded as sufficient reason for disapproval for employment at AMCOMLIB. The SUBJECT's own comments regarding his KOMSOMOL membership are further set out later in this report.

- (5) The SUBJECT allegedly collaborated with the Soviet Repatriation Commission in Munich in 1947.

It is difficult to comment on this allegation since the identity of the source of the allegation is not known in Munich. The allegation may stem from a trace reply received on 2 March 1954 from the Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz (BfV). This reply describes ZOTOW as follows: "Former Soviet Officer, member of Vlassov Army, employee of the Russian Repatriation Commission in the French Zone of Germany, considered to be a Soviet agent in emigrant circles." On 2 May 1961, I requested the Bavarian Landesamt für Verfassungsschutz (LfV) to recheck this reply with the BfV. I was advised verbally as follows on 14 December 1961:

"LfV files contain two points which may cast some suspicion upon ZOTOW. These are (1) The fact that ZOTOW is alleged to have associated with members of the Soviet Repatriation Commission either in France or in the French Zone of Occupied Germany in the immediate post-war period. This was reported along with the fact that ZOTOW was actually photographed with Soviet Repatriation officers. (2) During the period 1947-48, ZOTOW is alleged to have distributed leaflets which attempted to generate bad feeling between Displaced Persons and the American Military Police (sic). No information originating with the LfV casts any suspicion on ZOTOW and the above two points were raised by other intelligence services."

As additional personal comment, Herr HUBER, LfV specialist in emigre affairs and the individual responsible for liaison with AMCOMLIB, stated as follows: "One should not overestimate this type of allegation (diese darf Mann nicht überschätzen); rather, one should try to clear it up (sondern, erklären soll Mann)." He stated further that it would seem to him rather unusual that ZOTOW has been here since 1946 or 1947 and during all of these 15 years no other single bit of information has come to the attention of the LfV (the equivalent of the FBI) regarding his activities as an alleged pro-Soviet.

The SUBJECT's comments are set out in detail later in this report.

Another possibility is that this allegation (cooperation with the Soviet Repatriation Commission) stems from a July 1947 report (not available in Munich) on one Alexander CHIKALOV. The cover memorandum to this report (which is available here) indicates that the report is a summary of information regarding CHIKALOV and may also contain comments regarding the SUBJECT and other emigres. Unfortunately, the informants listed for the report are VOSS, aka ALEXANDROV; KANDAUROV; LEGOSTAYEV; KARPATSKI; KOPATSKI; TROSHIN, aka ROLIN, et al. Each of these individuals is listed in MOG/CE files as an intelligence fabricator par excellence, and denunciations furnished by them are not generally regarded as significant.

Finally, the alleged cooperation with the Soviet Repatriation Commission does not seem compatible with the fact that ZOTOW changed his name to escape repatriation prior to the U.S. change in its official policy regarding tolerance of such forcible repatriations.

- (6) The SUBJECT allegedly posed "unskillfully" as an anti-Bolshevist while in reality he was pro-Soviet.

This allegation may also have originated with the CHIKALOV report referred to above. If so, the routine denunciation of known fabricators should carry little weight. The allegation itself is so vague as to be unanswerable. Whatever the pro-Soviet attitudes or actions are that are suggested in the charge, it would seem unlikely that an individual with ZOTOW's reputation for consistent and intelligent anti-Communist activity would have participated in them. Perhaps what is referred to here is the allegation regarding the distribution of leaflets to create ill-will between emigres and American MP's. ZOTOW's comments regarding this possibility are set out below.

- (7) The SUBJECT allegedly introduced a Soviet Agent into NTS circles.

This allegation (the only one, it would seem, worthy of serious consideration) involves the introduction of one Georg MUELLER (true name: Georgiy Vladimirovich KHORUNZHII) into an NTS cell. MUELLER was sentenced in 1953 by a German Tribunal to 14 years' imprisonment for espionage on behalf of the Soviets.

The allegation that ZOTOW introduced MUELLER into NTS circles is not accurate. EGMA-27772, dated 18 July 1957 from COB/MUNICH to COB/BONN details this matter. Pertinent excerpts are as follows:

"In December 1952, Adam Vaselyevich RUSSAK (DOB/POB unknown) who worked for the Security Section NTS, suggested to MUELLER that he join ZOTOV's cell which was preparing individuals for membership in NTS. During the Christmas holidays of that year, ZOTOV along with another member of NTS, paid a social call on MUELLER. At first, ZOTOV had reservations about MUELLER because of M's association with various suspected RIS agents, plus the fact that M had been quite curious about the NTS printing shop and had tried to enter the shop even though it was a restricted area; another reason Z objected to M was because M said he was a teacher of the Russian language and Russian Literature, yet, seemed to know very little about the latter subject. Later ZOTOV's impression of MUELLER became quite favorable, so much so that he recommended M for not only membership in NTS but also for operational work within the organization.

During this association, MUELLER tried to elicit information on various NTS personalities from ZOTOV, but there is no indication that M was able to learn more about sensitive or peripheral operations from ZOTOV. (NOTE: In MUELLER's interrogation report he stated that Z knew very little about NTS operations. Also, according to MUELLER, ZOTOV was a well read person who reported opinions of others as his own; that Z was a clean-cut fellow, full of enthusiasm, who believed that the NTS was right in working for the liberation of Russia.)

After MUELLER was entrenched in NTS he and ZOTOV would constantly argue over anything and everything. In July 1952, when MUELLER was cavorting with NTS members he reported to the RIS one Fnu KUZNETSOV; one year later, July 1953, he passed to the RIS a photograph of ZOTOV, giving Z's full name and place of employment."

. . . .

"Based on the above information we believe that there is not enough factual data on Aleksei ZOTOV to warrant the accusations that have been made against him in the past, nor is this data considered sufficient to accuse his wife of misdeeds."

To summarize, we would appear to be accusing ZOTOW of recruiting MUELLER when MUELLER was actually directed to join ZOTOW's NTS cell; and we regard it as suspicious that ZOTOW did not see through MUELLER, in spite of the fact that he was generally accepted as bona fide even by the case officers handling him. Ironically, RUSSAK, who actually introduced MUELLER to NTS and to ZOTOW is still persona grata at NTS.

I interviewed ZOTOW on 18 December 1961 in my office. ZOTOW was actually born as KUZNETSOV on 29 March 1921 in Koverino, Ryazanskaya Oblast, Russia. When he left the Soviet Union he left his family there, but he has not heard from them nor has he attempted to contact them since 1946. At that time he had a father, mother, two brothers and two sisters living at home. He does not know if they are still living or not.

ZOTOW's account of the immediate post-war period is generally as follows: At the end of the war in Europe, ZOTOW (who had joined the Vlassov Army earlier) was working in the area bounded by Stuttgart, Freiburg and Basel for the Vlassovites. He visited the various POW camps in these areas and recruited for the Vlassov Army and served generally as a propagandist for the Vlassov movement. When Germany capitulated, he was unable to leave the area and found himself in what was to become the French Zone of Occupied Germany, in the area of Lörrach. He was first employed by the French Army as a cook, but was later released when there was no need for the services of POW's such as he. He was in Lörrach in the spring of 1945 when he was advised that he must go to register at the repatriation camp located at Müllheim bei Freiburg. He didn't go because the French policy at the time insisted upon repatriation to one's country of origin, even if the individual was unwilling. After 3 or 4 days, however, he was picked up by the French military authorities and delivered to the camp. At that time, since he feared forcible repatriation to the Soviet Union, he assumed his present identity (as ZOTOW) and claimed to be a Polish emigre. He succeeded in having himself placed in the Polish section of the camp, but soon his inability to speak the language gave him away. In addition, a Western Ukrainian he met in the camp advised him to give himself up as a Russian since he would be discovered anyhow. He might be able to do something for himself if he went freely, but they would undoubtedly punish him if he were forcibly sent to the Russian section. Accordingly, ZOTOW went to the Russian camp and signed in as a Russian repatriate.

In the Russian section (as in all of the other sections) there were no officers, but only other prisoners of war. In the Russian section, however, the section chief (Lager Leiter) asked ZOTOW about his history. When ZOTOW claimed to be a Russian prisoner of war, the chief stated that as a former soldier, ZOTOW (and the others in the camp) had a military duty and would have to drill and march around in order to stay fit and present a military appearance. Although the others in the camp were all prisoners, many of the Russians had collected various parts of uniforms (partially French, partially POW and some of their own invention). In addition, they "commissioned" themselves by assuming various ranks and used epaulets to designate these ranks. ZOTOW never used one of these "uniforms" but was forced to carry out the drill, etc. In addition, he was photographed on a few occasions with some of the other inmates in the lager. Copies of two of these photos are attached (ZOTOW is circled in the photos).

One day, a former Soviet Oberleutnant came to ZOTOW in the camp and said he recognized him, knew his name, and called him an "enemy of the people." He had recognized ZOTOW from a speech



ZOTOW had given in one of the POW camps while recruiting for the Vlassov Movement. He said that since ZOTOW was obviously giving himself up, he was not going to denounce him and assured ZOTOW that when he returned to the Soviet Union, the homeland would treat him well and allow him to return to full citizenship with all his rights. ZOTOW, however, had no intention of returning to the Soviet Union.

In October 1945 (ZOTOW recalls being in the camp when Hiroshima and Nagasaki were hit by atom bombs on August 6 and 9th), word came out to the prisoners that they would be moving out in a matter of days. The camp was fenced, but had a lot of vineyards around and in several places the wood fence was broken down. In company with about 12 other prisoners from the Russian section (who also did not want to be repatriated to the Soviet Union), ZOTOW escaped. Of the other approximately 12 escapees, ZOTOW remembers the following by name: Dmitri VETROV, Grigor LYEFF, Ivan KRUTCHIN, and Yefim TAMAYEV. All have since left Germany and it is believed all emigrated to the United States. ZOTOW is fairly certain that TAMAYEV is now serving in the United States Army and that he would be about 40-43 years old.

TAMAYEV knew of a bookbinder, a former German officer who lived in Müllheim, and ZOTOW and TAMAYEV sought help there. The German hid them for a few hours and then sent them to a farmer in the area whom he trusted. The bookbinder had a brother in Stuttgart (in the American Zone) and since the prisoners had heard that the Americans would no longer forcibly repatriate former Russians -- particularly Vlassovites -- TAMAYEV and ZOTOW set out for Stuttgart.

On arriving in Stuttgart they contacted the bookbinder's brother who got them jobs in a shop repairing shoes for the U.S. Army. They reported in to UNRRA but received no reassurance that they would not be sent back to the Soviet Union. This was in November 1945. While in Stuttgart, they heard that there was a camp in Munich almost exclusively made up of individuals who were refusing to go back to the Soviet Union, so they decided to try to get themselves admitted to this camp. ZOTOW was sick, so TAMAYEV made the first trip alone and found out that the camp was at Bad Aibling, near Munich. In November 1945, ZOTOW and TAMAYEV (who had returned) left Stuttgart and travelled to Bad Aibling, where an American Captain admitted them to the camp. In March 1946 a group of Soviet Repatriation Officers came to Bad Aibling but ZOTOW left the camp and did not speak to them. He went, instead, to Munich and again registered with UNRRA and got a job working for the Americans. He kept this job until about October 1946, when he contacted tuberculosis and was sent to the TB hospital in Gauting until March 1949.

With regard to his NTS association with MUELLER, ZOTOW states that he was introduced to MUELLER by OKOLOVICH (still with NTS in Frankfurt) and was asked to explain the workings and goals of NTS to him. He saw MUELLER from time to time in Frankfurt and after MUELLER's redefection, he was questioned by a Captain in CIC regarding what he knew about MUELLER. The contact with CIC was as a witness, however, and no question of ZOTOW's complicity with

MUELLER was ever raised. ZOTOW denied ever having had any dealings with the American MP's and disclaimed any knowledge of attempts to create bad feeling between the MP's and the emigre community. He specifically stated that he had no information whatever and never participated in the distribution of any pamphlets looking toward the creation of such dissention. The only such pamphlet distribution exercises he ever engaged in were as part of his anti-Communist function with NTS.

ZOTOW recounted his problems with regard to emigration to the United States. He was first turned down because he failed to list membership in the Komsomol. Then, after explaining this and listing his membership, he was told that he would have to produce testimonials indicating that he had worked for five years in an anti-Communist activity. He did this, and produced the documents from various emigre anti-Communist organizations in Russian. He then was informed that he would have to have them all translated and notarized, which he did. He was then turned down a third time because of his TB. He has been re-examined three times by INS doctors and rejected each time because of lung spots. He states that he would still be anxious to emigrate to the States, but does not know if he would be accepted.

With regard to his Komsomol membership, and all of his pre-Vlassov history, ZOTOW points out that he was 15 years old when he joined the Komsomol and 18 years old when he went into the Soviet army. All of his adult life he has been engaged in anti-Communist activity, starting with the Vlassov Army and running through his NTS and AMCOMLIB employment. He feels certain that any question regarding his being possibly pro-Soviet must be the result of some misunderstanding. Anyone who takes the time to study his activities, his reputation and all of the work of his adult life would recognize that he has been constantly involved in anti-Communist rather than pro-Communist activity.

In addition to all of the above, there remains only to set out the opinion of AMCOMLIB staffers regarding ZOTOW. He continues to be held in the highest regard by his colleagues and his supervisors. He is an outstanding worker and a most competent monitor. He is the only logical choice for assignment to AMCOMLIB's special monitoring section and has been nominated for such assignment. No unfavorable information whatever is contained in his file here. At my request, his immediate supervisor, Leonid KUBIK, has submitted a current appraisal which reads in part:

"From the very first day his behavior has been above reproach and he made every effort to assimilate himself to his work as quickly as possible. Then, and up until this time, he has given absolutely no trouble, nor has there been any complaint against him. He has gone out of his way to support every anti-Communist activity..."

EGMA-27772, referred to above, indicates that there is no pertinent derogatory information available regarding ZOTOW's wife, Irene Pravosudovich ZOTOW, who is the daughter of Michail PRAVOSUDOVICH. Michail PRAVOSUDOVICH is employed as Presse Referent,

Landesvertretung Berlin in Bonn. This is the equivalent of Press Officer representing the City of Berlin Mission in Bonn. PRAVOSUDOVICH is reputed to be well-known as a prominent anti-Communist. No derogatory information is available regarding him locally.

What has preceded concerns the continued employment at AMCOMLIB of a stateless emigre, concerning whom certain allegations have been made. Howland SARGEANT, President of AMCOMLIB, stated in his report to the Board of Trustees on 5 December 1961:

"Partnership with the emigration (from the Soviet Union) is the cornerstone of all major activities supported by the American Committee."

If we are to adopt employment criteria which of themselves preclude the employment of emigres, then either something is wrong with the "cornerstone" upon which this Project is based; or a review of the criteria we use in screening employees is indicated. In virtually every emigre applicant Headquarters will find certain built-in problems. Emigres having the peculiar talents we need will continue to be found to have families in the Soviet Union; they will be found to have served in the Soviet armed forces; and they will admit to having been Komsomol or CP members. In addition, if they have lived for any period of time in Munich's emigre milieu, they will almost certainly have been denounced by their colleagues. To deny ourselves the services of these prospective employees on these grounds only would be to adopt a practice which will not only substantially weaken the effectiveness of this Project but will, in time, be the reason for its demise. In short, this Project cannot survive without using former Soviet citizens, since that is the basic concept upon which the Project was conceived and organized.

On 12 March 1959 a summary of information on the ZOTOW "case" was prepared by the CE section at MOG. The opening sentence of this review (which deals with most of the allegations spelled out above) is as follows: "The Security Office decision against ZOTOW is clearly ridiculous." A more objective review of all of the information available would seem to make one point eminently clear: there is not a great deal of substantiated derogatory information available regarding ZOTOW. My suggestion is that the area for review lies between the extreme of security disapproval and the extreme of terming the case against him "ridiculous." The fact that we cannot legally fire ZOTOW should not be a factor in our decision regarding the desirability of terminating him. However, our position is a tenuous one if we insist upon a termination that is legally impossible, and base our insistence upon information that at best is not significantly derogatory and at worst is completely unsubstantiated.



