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SX-4617

2 October 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CI Liaison

FROM : SR/CI/R

SUBJECT : Questions Concerning Defectors
Joseph J. DUTKANICZ (201-289236) and
Vladimir O. SLOBODA (201-287527)

1. DUTKANICZ's Army assignment at time of defection.

USAREUR Case Summary 2-62-2 (copy attached) confirms DUTKANICZ's assignment to the 32nd Signal Battalion in Darmstadt. However, his wife indicated that he had CIC connections. In an interview at the American Embassy Moscow on 5 December 1961 (cited in DBA-288, 24 January 1962), she indicated that their trip behind the Iron Curtain "had been made possible because her husband worked for the CIC and was allowed to do things the ordinary 'CI' could not do." There are also penciled notations in the 201 file suggesting that his Army assignment may have included intelligence functions of some kind.

2. Previous KGB connection of both defectors.

Per USAREUR Case Summary 2-62-2, DUTKANICZ himself told American Embassy officials in Moscow that he had been approached by KGB representatives in a bar near Darmstadt in 1958 and had accepted recruitment as a result of their threats and inducements. He claimed to have given them minimum cooperation from then until his defection, although the Army considered it probable that he had done more than he admitted. A further indication of his KGB involvement before defection is the fact that the special decree granting him Soviet citizenship was enacted three months before his arrival in the USSR; see Emb tel 851.

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⁰²
22 SLOBODA's prior KGB involvement was confirmed by [BE]VISION, as reported in [YT]-1192. See attached memorandum of 28 March 1962 in regard to passage of this information to the Army. Further indications are the facts that SLOBODA was a KGB resettlement case and that he later told an American Embassy Moscow official that he had been black-mailed and framed into going to the USSR. See Moscow Emb tels A-572, 23 October 1962, and 851, 23 March 1962.

3. Army security investigations as immediate cause of defection.

Per USAREUR Case Summary 2-62-2, DUTKANICZ told American Embassy Moscow officials that he had informed his KGB handler that he was under investigation for security reasons. He defected soon after, in accord with a KGB suggestion that he do so.

SLOBODA's defection was precipitated by increased Army security measures, according to [BE]VISION.

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Lee H. Wigren
C/SR/CI/R

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- 2 -

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