

DISPATCH

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PROCESSING ACTION	
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	ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING
	MICROFILM

TO Chief, KURIOT Attn: Photographic Branch

INFO. Chief, WH Division

FROM Chief of Station, Mexico City

SUBJECT Operational Report -- 1-29 February 1964

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES
Action: None; for your information.

Presented below is a reporting of the operational and support activities of Gregory D. PARMUTH and Hugh T. FRANCOITTE for the above mentioned period.

1. General Summary of Activities.

Activity for the month of February consisted of the following: two photographic operational assignments were serviced by PARMUTH and FRANCOITTE using the LIFIRE truck and Balscope; one flaps and seals operation was completed by PARMUTH and Harriet A. ZAMBELLE; one carbon and developer was issued to LICORAL/1; Station print production totaled 1,952 prints for the month; the new passport camera cassettes which were sent to the Station from Headquarters are working well; and photographic basehouses covering the Soviet and Satellite Embassies performed normally.

2. TDY.

a. On 14 February 1964 Harriet A. ZAMBELLE arrived at the Mexico City Station for the purpose of removing important Communist Party documents from clothing. See paragraph 5. a. below for details concerning this operation.

b. On 20 February 1964 Hugh T. FRANCOITTE arrived PCS at the Mexico City Station. FRANCOITTE is replacing Gregory D. PARMUTH who is Photographic Operations Officer representing KURIOT at the Mexico City Station.

(continued)

Enclosures: *5 Encls*

- A. Training Report
- B. Film
- C. Photographs
- D. Drawing
- E. Misc. Report
- F. Identity (under separate cover)

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50-6-18

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2 - KURIOT, w/encls } *u.s.c.*
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CROSS REFERENCE TO

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER
HMMA-2308 **CS COPY**

DATE
17 March 1964

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HQS FILE NUMBER
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<p>3. <u>Training.</u></p> <p>See training report forwarded as enclosure A. on Lewis F. KASNICKA.</p> <p>4. <u>Operations.</u></p> <p>a. On 25 February 1964 PARMUTH and FRANCOTTE were requested by Lee R. MYLECHRAINE to cover a meeting between Oliver Q. WIMPHEN and a top-ranking official of the PCM. MYLECHRAINE requested movies of this meeting. A casing exercise was completed on the afternoon of 25 February with the recommendations that the LIFIRE truck be used on this operation. On the morning of 27 February 1964, PARMUTH and FRANCOTTE, with RESCIGNO driving the LIFIRE truck, successfully photographed this meeting on motion picture film using the Turret Camera Concealment device. Forwarded as enclosure B is a copy of the film covering this meeting.</p> <p>b. During the period 26 February - 1 March 1964, PARMUTH and FRANCOTTE were requested by Gerald F. GESTETNER to prepare for a photographic operation which would take place on 1 March 1964. The purpose of this operation was to photograph a meeting between a Soviet official and a U.S. Army enlisted man who came from the States to Mexico to meet with this official clandestinely. Work on this operation began on 26 February 1964 by choosing different photographic locations using the LIFIRE truck. On 27 February 1964, immediately following the PCM operation, test exposures were made from the LIFIRE truck at the proposed meeting site using both the K-100 for motion pictures and the Exacta camera with 240mm lens for stills. Upon reviewing the tests, the Station chose stills for this operation. On the night of 28 February 1964, FRANCOTTE and Lola M. CAPAZZI registered in alias at a hotel which overlooked the general meeting site. FRANCOTTE was requested to photograph all persons who would be near the target area before and after the meetings took place in order to check for counter-surveillance. On the morning of 29 February 1964, FRANCOTTE made tests with the Exact camera and 30x eyepiece. Using Tri-X film, FRANCOTTE photographed exemplars of what type of coverage could be expected in bright morning sun from this location. This test roll of Tri-X film was developed with excellent results in Acufine, full strength at 75 degrees, for a period of 20 minutes. The Station was satisfied with this part of the coverage. On the morning of 1 March 1964, RESCIGNO parked the LIFIRE truck directly across the street from the meeting site (which was at a local movie theatre), leaving PARMUTH to cover this part of photographing the meeting between the Soviet and the target. RESCIGNO immediately went to FRANCOTTE's room in the hotel to maintain audio communications between the LIEMBRACE surveillance team (which would be following the target when he left his hotel for the meeting) and the LIFIRE truck which would be warned when the target approached the theatre area for his meeting with the Soviet. FRANCOTTE's coverage showed the Soviet entering the park area approximately 25 minutes before the actual meeting time. At 0916 the Soviet walked to the theatre entrance where the target was standing. The Soviet waited approximately 6 minutes before approaching target. Forwarded as enclosure C. are photographs taken of this operation, which were requested by the U.S. Army through GESTETNER.</p> <p>5. <u>Station Support.</u></p> <p>a. On 15 and 16 February 1964, ZAMBELLE and PARMUTH were requested by Lee R. MYLECHRAINE to be on standby to remove important Communist documents which were sewn into the lining of a raincoat. Considerable preparations were made on the part of ZAMBELLE for this operation, who spent the whole of 15 February practicing on different stitching both by hand and machine. On the night of 16 February 1964, PARMUTH and ZAMBELLE were notified by MYLECHRAINE that the raincoat with the documents stitched</p>			
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<p>inside the coat plus 19 envelopes were in the case officer's possession for a period of 7 hours. ZAMBELLE successfully removed the documents which consisted of three type-written documents on white thin cloth. The documents were then photographed and resewn into the raincoat. PARMUTH opened, photographed and resealed 16 of the 19 envelopes with the help of ZAMBELLE and Julie G. PERSFULL. This operation was completed in five hours. PARMUTH requested that MYLECHRAINE tell his agent that the 19 envelopes should be carried by the agent preferably in his rear hip pocket during his trip by bus from Mexico City to Merida (a hot long trip by bus) to distort any chance that the recipients would detect that the letters had been opened. On 27 February 1964, MYLECHRAINE reported that his agent returned from Merida and followed the Station's instructions about placing the letters in his hip pocket. The letters arrived in Merida as expected, in a pressed damp condition. The three of the 19 envelopes which the Station did not open had been originally sealed with a liquid gum-type glue which gets tacky when sealed. When PARMUTH attempted to open these three envelopes which were made of cheap rough fiber paper by direct steaming, it would^{could} be found that the fiber would give way before any noticeable softening of the glue and the decision was made to leave the envelopes untouched. On 17 February 1964, seven sets of prints, consisting of 63 each set, were given to MYLECHRAINE for his dissemination. No repercussions were reported to the Station concerning this Fand S operation.</p> <p>b. ²² On the afternoon of 24 February 1964, FRANCOTTE and PARMUTH visited the [MK] CHARITY basehouse where PARMUTH introduced FRANCOTTE to RESCIGNO. KURIOT Station support was discussed at length during this meeting.</p> <p>c. On the night of 25 February 1964, PARMUTH introduced FRANCOTTE to Identity A who controls the passport camera activity at the [airport] ²⁴ meeting was arranged by Identity A to have PARMUTH and FRANCOTTE inspect the passport camera at the [airport] ²⁴ on 4 March 1964. The three new cassettes which were sent to the Station for this passport camera operation have been tested and are working well. Several improvements were made by Identity A to the safe area where the passport camera is used. They are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The new room now has a steel grating as a ceiling preventing anyone from climbing over and into this room; (2) Another door divides the location of the room into two parts. This door as well as the other two doors is always locked. Thus the entire area is secured. (3) Identity A and one camera operator have the key to this new inner room for their private use only. See enclosure D. for the drawing of this room. <p>d. On 24 February 1964, PARMUTH introduced FRANCOTTE to LIFEUD/22 and 23 who are located at the LIERODE basehouse. An inspection tour of the installation was given by LIFEUD/22, explaining in detail his responsibilities at this installation in support of PBRUMEN operations. FRANCOTTE will handle this photographic operation when PARMUTH departs Mexico.</p> <p>6. <u>SW Activity.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. On 8 February 1964 PARMUTH trained Lawrence F. BARKER in the use of the 37 carbon system and 58 developer. This training was given to BARKER so that he could train LICORAL/1 in New York City in these systems. b. On 21 February 1964 PARMUTH developed two SW messages from LICHAP/1. 		
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<p>c. On 28 February 1964 PARMUTH developed one SW message from LICHAP/1.</p>			
<p>7. <u>Miscellaneous Statistics.</u></p>			
<p>a. Number of operational target surveys completed during the month: 0.</p>			
<p>b. Number of TDY trips completed during the month: 0.</p>			
<p>c. Photographic equipment issued for operational use: 0.</p>			
<p>d. Photographic equipment repaired: 0.</p>			
<p>e. Number of people trained in photographic techniques/equipment: 0.</p>			
<p>8. <u>Production Figures on Jobs Processed.</u></p>			
<p>a. Black and White: 62 jobs.</p>			
<p>b. Total prints: 1,952.</p>			
<p>c. 35mm microfilm: 300 feet 16mm microfilm: 800 feet</p>			
<p>d. 120 size roll film: 2.</p>			
<p>e. Sheet film (all types): 18.</p>			
<p>f. Color jobs: 0.</p>			
<p>g. KURIOT Station Support:</p>			
<p>(1) Secret Writing: 3 messages developed, plus 1 training job.</p>			
<p>(2) Flaps and seals: 16 letters opened and resealed.</p>			
<p>(3) Chemical harassment: 0.</p>			
<p><i>Willard C. Curtis</i> Willard C. CURTIS</p>			
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