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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: CARADJA, Princess Catherine

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

1. In a report dated 4 April 1952, [REDACTED] said that Subject, in collaboration with her daughter, Alexandra (Tanda) CARAGEA, and a Lt. Colonel Ion IONESCU, had opened an "intelligence shop" in Dornbirn, Austria. [REDACTED] they appeared to work for a [REDACTED] intelligence service and lived under [REDACTED] protection. At the time of the report, their address was 11 Schillerstrasse, Dornbirn, Austria. The above information has not been confirmed [REDACTED].

2. The following information concerns the subject's daughter, Princess Alexandra CARAGEA (or CARADJA), also known as, Tanda CARAGEA, Tanda BRAGADIRU (Mrs. Dumitru BRAGADIRU) and Tanda MOEVS (Mrs. Robert MOEVS).

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

a. Shortly after 23 August 1944, [REDACTED] when the Rumanians capitulated to the Allied forces, her home became a billet for officers and enlisted men of the United States Army in Bucharest. She and her husband continued to live there. She was then the wife of Dumitru BRAGADIRU, a wealthy brewer and canner with pronounced German sympathies.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

b. During this period, [REDACTED] Tanda came in contact with various high ranking American officers who stayed at the BRAGADIRU home on their brief trips from Italy. As a result of this entree into American military circles, she was able to arrange for herself a plane trip to Italy and Switzerland in 1945 at a time when practically no Rumanians were yet able to leave the country. She had since claimed that this trip was granted her as a sort of reward for alleged wartime aid to American prisoners of war in Rumania. Ostensibly the purpose of her trip to Italy and Switzerland in early 1945 was to carry out a mission for the Rumanian Red Cross. There was considerable doubt in Bucharest at the time of that trip as to the bona fides of her mission, since the Rumanian Red Cross did not appear to recognize her as its representative. [REDACTED] who had known Tanda most of

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)
ISCAP No. 2010-081, document 8

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her life and who had described her as a "psychopathic liar", and stated that the Red Cross mission was entirely imaginary and that the actual object of her trip was to effect a transfer for her husband, of funds in Switzerland which, [REDACTED] had resulted from dealings with the Germans and which were therefore likely to have been frozen.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

- c. [REDACTED] indicated that it was at this time (1945), that Tanda became acquainted with Robert MOEVS, an American air force lieutenant whom she married in 1947 after her divorce from BRAGADIRU. She was known to have made at least one more trip outside of Rumania before her marriage to MOEVS. This was in September, 1946, when she accompanied her mother to Switzerland in connection with a child welfare commission to which the latter was presumably accredited. According to MOEVS, Tanda left her mother in Switzerland and went on to Paris where she spent a month alone.
- d. In 1946 and 1947, her name was linked with that of Rumanian Prime Minister Petre GROZA. Clearance for her trip to Switzerland and France in 1946 (see paragraph 2b) was obtained, according to the story current at the time in Bucharest, through GROZA with whom she was allegedly intimate. She was also at that time reported to be having intimate relations with one Paul LAPTEV (or LAPTEN).
- e. When MOEVS was transferred out of Bucharest in September 1947, [REDACTED] Tanda did not join him. Although she had stated that the reason for this was her inability to obtain clearance from the Rumanian authorities, [REDACTED] had stated that although the mission was willing to extend its aid, she herself had refused to leave Rumania without assurance that she could return. Another reason given by Subject, while in Bucharest, for not leaving with her husband was her desire to sell certain personal property in Rumania.
- f. In 1947, [REDACTED] Bucharest newspapers published a story to the effect that Tanda was being sued for fraud. She was said to have undertaken a project for the construction of an apartment building in Bucharest which was never carried out. Purchasers of apart-

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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ments in the projected building thereupon sued for the return of their money which had been turned over to her. The exact outcome of the suit is not known but it is believed that some settlement was reached.

- g. MOEVS went to Paris to study music. When a friend, encountering him in that city, asked when Tanda would join him he replied: "I don't know. She goes her way and I go mine." E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)
- h. In November 1949, [REDACTED] Tanda was picked up by United States officials in Vienna. She was traveling with Paul LAPTEV (see paragraph 2d) with whom she admitted, under questioning, having had adulterous relations while at the same time claiming he was her half-brother. She had arrived in Vienna posing as a refugee and had already succeeded in obtaining an affidavit in lieu of passport from American authorities, when her name was mentioned by a confessed Rumanian agent then being interrogated by CIC. At first she denied everything but upon being confronted by the confessed agent, she admitted that she was on an intelligence assignment for the Rumanian Intelligence Service. Her mission, according to her own statement, was to contact her former Rumanian friends who had fled abroad, as well as Americans who had formerly served with the American Military Mission in Bucharest. Both she and LAPTEV, she stated, had signed agreements to furnish information from abroad, E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1) [REDACTED] before going on the mission in question. A full report of her confession was made to the United States Military Attache in Paris by Major Robert E. VOLLENDORF of ODI, Vienna on 16 December 1949.
- i. [REDACTED] she was turned over to the French authorities in Austria, since her intelligence objective was to have taken her to Paris. While under detention by the French, she asked to see her husband who was still in Paris. He agreed to go to Austria to see her and apparently was willing to accept her story of having been forced into her compromising situation. He appears to have ignored completely the close relationship existing between his wife and

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LAPTEV - a relationship which allegedly continued to exist following Tanda's release and her husband's departure for France.

- j. A report from Paris, [REDACTED] indicates that Tanda and LAPTEV applied for French visas in September 1949. These were not granted since she had been definitely forbidden to enter French territory as a result of her confessed activity. However, it was reported in October 1949 that she had left for Switzerland on 23 September 1949, and was expected to return to Vienna shortly afterward. E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)
- k. [REDACTED] Tanda once again came to the attention of United States authorities in late March or early April of 1950 when her husband learned that she had been arrested by the Swiss. Although the exact nature of the charge against her was not known, it was believed that she had overstayed the legal limit of her visitor's visa. On 6 April 1950 she was released in custody of her husband who promised to take her out of the country. He reportedly told the Swiss authorities that he would take her into France illegally by automobile, relying on the heavy Easter week-end traffic to cover their entry. He claimed he could later arrange her French sojourn through friendly French officials. Nothing further has yet been learned as to the results of this venture.
- l. However, MOEVS is reported to have told a friend whom he encountered in Europe shortly after the purported interview with the Swiss authorities (see paragraph 2k) that his wife has gone to Italy.
- m. According to a report dated 4 January 1952, [REDACTED] Tanda, whose permanent address was given as 11 Faberstrasse, Salzburg, Austria, was said to have been receiving a check almost monthly from an unknown source in Switzerland. E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)
- n. In a report dated 9 June 1952, Tanda, [REDACTED] was formerly a member of the Iron Guard in Rumania and also worked for the Rumanian Intelli-

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gence Service. At the time of the report she was referred to as a "dangerous Soviet agent". [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

- o. According to a report dated 4 September 1952, [REDACTED] Tanda had resided since 28 April 1949, in Salzburg, Austria, at Faberstrasse 11/3. She allegedly arrived in Austria from Rumania with her husband, an American citizen, and was not obliged to register with the local police. Her husband (MOEVS), from whom she has since been divorced, at the time of the report was in the United States. Tanda currently (1952) lived inconspicuously, and made frequent trips to Innsbruck, Austria. She permitted herself to be called "Princess CARADJA" and evidently derived her livelihood from the sale of valuable personal belongings. She had not come to the attention of the Austrian police for political, moral, or other reasons since arriving in Salzburg.
- p. According to a report received during the spring of 1953, [REDACTED] Tanda was seriously ill with a tubercular condition, and was allowed to visit France for treatment. E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)
- q. According to a report dated 11 September 1953, [REDACTED] Tanda, identified as a suspected Communist agent, was married to an employee of the French Consulate in Innsbruck, and was living with him outside Innsbruck. It was said that her husband, whose name was not given, had to "overcome a number of difficulties in order to make the marriage possible".

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MEMORANDUM OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND
NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE PRINCESS CATHERINE CARADJA,
BENEFICIARY OF PRIVATE BILL
S. 1624

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

The Committee is referred to [redacted]
[redacted] the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, Department
of State, and the Office, Chief of Legislative Liaison, Department
of the Army for further information concerning the beneficiary
and her daughter Alexandra Caradja Bragadiru Moevs Layer.

This material contains information affecting the national
defense of the United States within the meaning of the
espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C. 793 and 794, the
transmission or revelation of information in violation of the
law, and the unauthorized communication or attempted communication
of information relating to the national defense in violation of the
law.

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