

CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET	22 [CICA] 1919
TO:	Chief, WS		
INFO:			21-3-17 2001-278,50
FROM:	Acting Chief of Station, [redacted]		
SUBJECT:	SOURCE Report on Marvin KRANCO, dob 9 May 1934 at New York City.		
ACTION:	For Information		Marked for Indexing

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Reference: [ODCA]-8769, 29 November 1960 (para 4)

1. SOURCE entertained Subject at dinner on 29 November 1960 at his flat for the purpose of assessment and elicitation of biographic information. SOURCE evaluation seemed to indicate that Subject is only of marginal potential value to CIA. The writer plans to meet Subject through [redacted] at a later date to make a personal assessment, but it is not expected that Subject will prove to be more interesting than is already indicated. As previously mentioned, SOURCE has been instructed to continue to keep the contact alive but not to devote undue time to it. For the sake of the record we submit the following information on Subject's background as a supplement to that already reported in reference. (Please note that there are some dates in the following which are contradictory to those reported in reference. Those cited below should be considered to be accurate.):

a. Subject served with the Marine Corps <sup>(1952-55)</sup> as a mechanic on jet aircraft in both North Carolina (probably Cherry Point MCAS) and in the West Indies. He didn't care for service life because of the discipline, regimentation, etc. After being discharged in 1955 he remained in the United States, doing nothing for about one year. He attended Farleigh Dickinson for one year (1956-57), but left after that time because he found it less than satisfactory or stimulating. In 1957 he came to Europe and toured around the continent. During the latter part of 1957 and in 1958, he made two 3-month trips on visitor's visas to the Soviet Union where he lived with his uncle's family in Kinek. While there he did attend some classes at the University, but was not a registered student. He stated that he has several cousins there about his age. From 1958 until the present he has been studying at the Slavic Institute here, and intends to take his examination in Slavic Studies in January 1961. He will take his examination in English and Russian, because he has not mastered Danish well enough to take it in Danish as normally required, he has agreed verbally with the Institute's authorities that should he receive his degree, he will not undertake to obtain a teaching position in Russian studies in Denmark.

b. Subject stated that his future plans are a bit uncertain, but that he will probably return to the States to teach Russian at the college level. He would, however, not be opposed to going back to the Soviet Union for further studies there. Another idea which appeals to Subject would be to go to (red) China for study. He told [redacted] that he had been to the American embassy to discuss the possibilities of such a trip. (A check with the consular section revealed that several people had approached its officers for advice on such matters, but it could not be determined whether one of them had been [redacted].) Subject indicated to [redacted] that he had discussed this with the [redacted] as he did not wish to travel and/or reside there if it was illegal. Subject stated that subject apparently considered going to China to study because he felt that perhaps the people there "live closer to life", or words to that effect. Subject indicated that a fourth alternative would be to remain here in Copenhagen for further study, but felt that this would be rather unlikely.

[redacted] reported that subject was either not very politically conscious and rather easily impressed about the American political scene of the past few years, or that he was not very interested in the subject.

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CONTINUATION OF  
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seemed to hold few illusions about the Russians and their brand of politics. He also mentioned that he had had the suggestion of being watched while he was visiting Russia during the aforementioned times. He was also critical of the bureaucratic red tape he encountered in Russia and blamed it on "back-passing" among the officials. His conversation indicated that he was very aware of the anti-Americanism one encountered in Russia.

2. ~~SMYKE~~ pointed out to the writer that shortly after dinner was finished, visitors arrived on the scene, including Subject's mistress. This cut down on the time which ~~SMYKE~~ felt he could devote to elicitation of information on the more pertinent topics. Further conversation with ~~SMYKE~~ by the writer, however, lead us to the conclusion stated in paragraph 1. Any change in this opinion and/or acquisition of further information thought to be of significance, which is obtained through the writer's meeting with Subject, will be reported. Otherwise, we will consider interest in Subject as a potential *SOURCE* as terminated at that time.

19 December 1960

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