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## SEURL

SUBJECT:YURIY I. NOSENKO

CHARACTER:

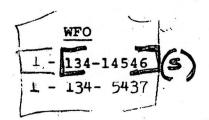
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Coseme/Ger 2/8/1002000)
Lee Harvey () SWA ld

REDWOOD IS THE CODE NAME ASSIGNED TO A KGB LINE N OFFICER WHO DEFECTED TO THE WEST IN JUNE, 1982. HE WAS BORN 3/28/47 HE WAS A KGB MAJOR IN THE ILLEGALS DIRECTORATE, HIS LAST POST BEING HEAD OF LINE N IN TEHRAN, IRAN S) HE WAS RECRUITED BY THE KGB WHILE STUDYING PERSIAN (WITH ENGLISH AS HIS SECOND LANGUAGE) AT THE MOSCOW SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL LANGUAGES. HIS ENTIRE KGB CAREER HAS BEEN DEVOTED TO IRANIAN MATTERS RELATED TO LINE N. AND HE HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE S DIRECTORATE (ILLEGALS) AT THE "CENTER" PREVIOUS TO HIS POSTING IN TEHRAN S

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YURI I. NOSENKO

8/19/92 9813 MITTO

On 1/17/83, source was queried concerning any knowledge he might have of the NOSENKO matter. He advised that "officially" the KGB never discusses defectors and generally all one would hear would be rumor and gossip. NOSENKO is considered a "traitor" in the eyes of the KGB as far as source is aware.

The source assumed that NOSENKO told western intelligence everything concerning Second Chief Directorate (SCD) activities in Moscow and further assumes that, as is custom, a "special Commission" of the SCD was convened following NOSENKO's defection to do a damage assessment.

As an aside, source noted that his defection would be "examined" by members of the K Directorate of the First Chief Directorate and by members of the 9th Department of the S Directorate 5

Source has no knowledge concerning any connection between the NOSENKO defection in 1964 and LEE HARVEY OSWALD's assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY in 1963. Asked to give his opinion on the merits of some speculation that NOSENKO defected under the direction of the KGB to convince the US that the KGB had nothing to do with OSWALD's actions, source did not believe that to be the case. In source's opinion, NOSENKO's defection and all the information he furnished about the SCD would have been too great a price to pay "to save one man."

Source does not believe that the KGB would risk "blowing an illegal" by tasking the illegal to attempt to locate a defector such as NOSENKO in the west. Likewise, source has never heard that the KGB killed or attempted to kill a defector. Such actions, if they ever occurred, certainly ended after OLEG LYALIN's defection in England in 1971.

COMMENT:

In 1969, the ATLAST illegal was, in fact, ordered by the KGB to attempt to verify NOSENKO's presence at a Washington, D.C. apartment complex. ATLAST was not, however, given NOSENKO's name but only a physical description

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED,
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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE,

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