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Case Summary: 2-62-2

Case:   
DUTKANICZ, Josef, Sgt.  
9 June 1926  
Gorlice, Poland

Date(s) of Activity: 1958-1960

Date Neutralized: N/A

Hostile Service: Soviet Intelligence  
Services (SIS),  
probably State  
Security Service (KGB)

Target: USAREUR Forces

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Summary

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Dutkanicz claims he was recruited by representatives of Soviet intelligence in West Germany during 1958. A combination of threats and inducements were used to gain his cooperation. He admits having had four meetings with his Soviet handlers during a two-year period, but claims he supplied only limited information to the KGB. There are, however, substantial indications that the compromise was greater. His espionage activity was terminated by his defection to the USSR in June 1960. He was subsequently exploited for propoganda purposes by the Soviets. Details of his complicity were obtained from statements made by Dutkanicz to US officials in Moscow.

EI and Assignments

Dutkanicz's principal mission was to report changes in the status and disposition of USAREUR forces indicating possible preparations for hostilities. He also admits receiving detailed instructions from the SIS which probably included additional collection EI, but he did not elaborate on these missions.

Recruitment and Modus Operandi

Dutkanicz, a naturalized US citizen born in Poland, was shipped to Germany in 1943 as a slave laborer and immigrated to the United States after World War II. He was drafted into the US Army in 1951 and was a sergeant in the 32nd Signal Battalion, Darmstadt, at the time of defection. He is a convinced liberal and has espoused leftist causes which led to a review and revocation of his SECRET clearance in January 1960.

Dutkanicz claims he was approached by KGB personnel in 1958 while drinking in a bar at Crumstadt, near Darmstadt. In the initial conversation, a combination of threats and inducements were used to obtain his promise of cooperation. The threats were mostly implied and directed against relatives in Poland, his immediate family in West Germany and Dutkanicz personally. Inducements consisted of promises to assist relatives residing behind the Iron Curtain. He also admits having been offered money on several occasions, but he allegedly refused to accept payment for his espionage activities. Dutkanicz claims that the

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controlling agency was the KGB. He admits having four meetings with the KGB representatives, who were allegedly from Vienna, Austria, during the period 1958 to 1960. He was furnished an accommodations address which he no longer remembers and was given secret writing materials. He claims to have sent only four letters to the accommodations address and he alleges to have furnished only negative imminence reports.

In May 1960 Dutkanicz informed his SIS handler that he was being investigated for security reasons and he was advised to apply for leave and defect with his wife and family to the USSR via Austria and Czechoslovakia. Dutkanicz complied with the instructions. Contact with KGB representatives was established on 26 June 1960 in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, a short distance from Vienna. He and his family then drove to Lvov, USSR, with a Soviet escort. He was subsequently exploited by the Soviets for propaganda purposes. The actual propaganda material was prepared by the KGB based on details furnished by Dutkanicz. In March 1962 the Soviets permitted his wife to return to the United States, but the children were retained in the USSR. Dutkanicz was allowed to accompany his wife to the US Embassy in Moscow for making the necessary preparations for her return. During this period Dutkanicz made a statement concerning his espionage activities in behalf of the KGB.

USAREUR Comment

Although Dutkanicz's confession was obtained under unusual circumstances, his statements appear substantially true although obviously incomplete. A strong possibility exists that he worked for the KGB for a longer period than he admits, and it is probable that Dutkanicz provided the KGB with considerably more information than negative imminence reports. His statement that his SIS recruiters were from Vienna is possibly correct and is supported by his alleged defection route. His statement that he refused payment from the SIS seems unlikely, since he reportedly was spending considerable amounts of money before his defection. The case is of unusual significance since it constitutes one of the most serious known penetrations of USAREUR forces by hostile intelligence. Also important is the fact that Dutkanicz's defection was apparently instigated by the Soviets for propaganda purposes after he lost access to sensitive information.

Additional reports will be prepared as information becomes available.

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201-289236  
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 Gorlice, Poland

Case Summary: 2-62-2

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Date Neutralized: N/A

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