
Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-90029-10026
RECORD SERIES : HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 100-405298-9

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : ARMY
FROM : USA
TO :

TITLE :

Released under the John F. Kennedy
Assassination Records Collection Act of
1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW
66000 Date: 11-03-2021

DATE : 09/29/1954
PAGES : 4

SUBJECTS :

THOMAS R. PEASNER

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 3
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/20/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : APPROVAL OF USA

COMMENTS : EXTRACTS;

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: PEASNER, Thomas R.

SEP 29 1954

EXTRACTS FROM STATEMENTS OF OTHER PsW
(Which are representative of statements by 190 PsW)

Pfc Bernard M. RENOUF
RA 11 199 267

Approved by [unclear] 10/1/54
See [unclear] 10/1/54
3/2/54 [unclear]
1/2/54 [unclear]
1/2/54 [unclear]

SUBJECT is a friend of Renouf and HE would involve men in political discussions and attempt to influence them. HE worked occasionally at camp Headquarters, probably writing petitions. HE had occasions to report to camp officials frequently both during night or day and on invitation or voluntarily. SUBJECT would be told that HE would never see HIS wife and children at home, if HE did not cooperate and would never see them again. HE appeared to have leanings toward Communism. HE collaborated with the Chinese by writing to American troops on the front lines, telling them how good the Chinese were treating them by writing army petitions, by getting others to join the progressive group, and in other ways assisting the Chinese in their indoctrination attempts. Renouf did not know SUBJECT before capture, but in private discussions with HIM, HE revealed that HE had socialistic tendencies before capture. HE circulated petitions in camp.

Sgt Guy L. LEWIS
RA 18 311 666

SUBJECT appeared to have leanings toward Communism. HE openly voiced pro-Communist leanings and contributed articles to the camp newspaper and to be sent to the U N. HE cultivated the friendship of the Chinese and became friends with them. While a prisoner at Camp #1 in 3rd Company HE stated that HIS father was a member of the Communist party U.S.A., and that HE and HIS father had been questioned by the FBI.

Sgt Frank J. PAGE
RA 13 163 949

SUBJECT was a member of the study group in the 2d Company, Camp #1. HE appeared to have leanings toward Communism and to be sincere in HIS support of Communism. HE wrote articles for the newspaper distributed in Camp #1, entitled "Toward Truth and Peace". HE was a heavy marijuana smoker.

Sgt Paul VRABEL
RA 13 212 776

SUBJECT wrote letters to Peace Conference in New York, and seemed to benefit by it.

Col Guy T. VADALA
RA 11 182 927

SUBJECT would go to parties at regimental headquarters and received extra tobacco and rations. HE appeared to have leanings toward Communism. HE was rewarded when HE wrote a good petition and would receive prizes. HE made recordings which were sent to Radio Peking.

Col John BLEVINS
RA 15 295 922

SUBJECT was a pro-Communist. HE wrote articles and peace petitions, made records, and attended study group meetings.

ENCLOSURE
CONFIDENTIAL 101-405298-7

CONFIDENTIAL

SEP 29 1954

Cpl Carl S. BISHOP
RA 13 346 591

SUBJECT is believed to have voluntarily reported to the Camp Officials on several occasions. HE is believed to be sincere in accepting Communism. HE was heard discussing merits of Communism with Powers and Watson. HE received better food and treatment probably due to HIS collaboration with the Chinese.

Cpl Wesley P. BIERS
RA 13 166 063

SUBJECT encouraged PsW to accept Communism and support it by writing articles of a pro-Communist nature. HE frequently visited with CCF officials at Camp #1 both day and night, as an invited guest and voluntarily. HE signed and circulated Peace Petitions. HE did not appear to be sincere in HIS acceptance of Communism but is regarded as an opportunist. HE was a member of the volunteer Advanced Study Group at Camp #1. HE received pay for having made wire recordings for propaganda purposes. HE authored a wire recording condemning the treatment of the repatriated PsW at Valley Forge Hospital.

SFC Alfred P. BANASH
ER 13 278 387

SUBJECT was an advisor to the "Peace Committee", made recordings, circulated petitions, wrote pro-Communist articles, and was a member of the study group. HE was considered very intelligent.

Pfc James R. AVJIAN
RA 11 200 578

SUBJECT attempted to influence other prisoners to Communism by "preaching" in favor of Communism to other PsW. HE was on the special writing staff of the camp newspaper "Toward Truth and Peace". HE volunteered for this position and was given prizes for articles selected for publication.

Pfc Kenneth H. CONNACHER
RA 13 315 493

SUBJECT talked to the other PsW individually about the ideology of Communism. HE used lectures on germ warfare, humanitarianism and a comparison between the U.S. and Russia and China. HE exchanged addresses with the Chinese.

Cpl Menifee CARTER
RA 13 257 902

SUBJECT, prior to HIS capture, said that HIS parents were Communists to men in the 38th Regt, 2nd Division. While in prison HE circulated petitions in the camp voluntarily.

SFC Harold G. BURNETT
RA 17 232 739

SUBJECT told HIM that HIS parents were Communists and HE refused repatriation. HE told stories about meetings in the U. S., and acted 100% for the Communists at times and at other times completely against them.

Sgt James D. FLOWERS
RA 15 274 215

Flowers heard that SUBJECT and HIS family had been "Progressive" for years. Source believes that HE helped write the petitions circulated by Bobby Degraw, Wesley Biers, and Lewis Griggs. (c)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

SEP 29 1954

Cpl George C. DAVISON
RA 12 323 442

SUBJECT and Degraw attempted to influence Davison and other prisoners to follow and accept theories of foreign ideology Communism, although HE can give specific instance.

Cpl Thomas A. LYKE
RA 15 274 514

SUBJECT appeared to have leanings toward Communism. HE was very sincere in supporting Communism. HE wrote articles for the camp newspaper. HE stated that HIS father was run out of Pennsylvania for Communism and HE was doing writings in college along progressive lines. HE circulated petitions to made HIM look better in the eyes of the Chinese. HE made, by request and voluntarily, recordings for propaganda through Radio Peking. HIS name was on a list of confessions that Lyke stole. It was a list of confessions that Degraw used to keep the PsW progressive. SUBJECT read a lecture to the PsW of USAF participation in bacteriological warfare.

M/Sgt Frank A. GRIMM
RA 37 029 767

SUBJECT circulated a peace petition in the Mining Camp in July 1951.

Sfc Frederick M. LIDDELL
RA 19 264 186

SUBJECT gave a speech thanking the Peace Committee for their welcome to Camp #1, telling them that we were glad to be there and how HE couldn't wait until they started studying.

Pfc Joseph J. HELLER
RA 13 344 378

SUBJECT was vice-chairman of the Peace Committee. HE exchanged addresses with an instructor known to Heller as "Shin". HE was to correspond and perhaps later meet with the man in the U. S. HE acted as an informer for the Chinese out of loyalty to the camp authorities, and acted in a Pro-Communist manner. HE stated that HIS father was thrown out of the state of Pennsylvania for HIS pro-Communist inclinations.

Pfc Robert T. WALTON
US 52 035 693

SUBJECT argued with Walton concerning Communism. Walton believed that SUBJECT'S father was a Communist and that HIS father was evicted from the state of Pennsylvania for that reason. HE appeared sincere in HIS beliefs.

Pfc Virgil KAVER
US 57 502 732

SUBJECT wrote Communistic articles which were published in "Toward Truth and Peace".

Pvt James J. COOGAN
RA 43 015 027

SUBJECT wrote a letter in support of Communistic views at Camp 1. HE wrote articles for "Truth and Peace", and circulated petitions.

Sfc Bob T. SMITH
RA 44 127 929

SUBJECT wrote a couple of articles for the newspaper, Shanghai News.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

SEP 29 1954

Pfc Robert D. WAHLER
RA 18 210 872

SUBJECT attempted to influence other prisoners to follow and accept Communism. HE read lectures on germ warfare that were prepared by the Chinese.

Cpl Carl T. STOUT
RA 16 294 251

SUBJECT was one of two members of the Peace Committee from the 5th Company, Camp No. 1. This organization was sponsored by the Chinese and membership consisted of two of the top progressives in each of the seven companies in the camp. Their function was to organize sport events (Olympics) etc, and act as liaison men between their companies and Regimental Headquarters. SUBJECT attended voluntary study groups, wrote letters to UN representatives from various countries and helped set up the Olympics.

Sgt Gale CARTER
RA 16 212 566

SUBJECT made welcoming speeches to arriving POW, telling them they would receive good treatment if they cooperated, that the Chinese were fine people, etc. SUBJECT was a progressive. HE did not receive better food or clothing than the other prisoners but HE was not pushed around or punished by the Chinese. It was hearsay that the "pros" were invited to the Chinese headquarters where they were given Sake, some food, and candy after which a discussion was held about activities in the camp, who was cooperating and who wasn't.

Col Paul S. GRAY
ER 17 249 327

SUBJECT argued outwardly to get the other POW to accept Communism. HE was a member of the Dicipinary Committee at Camp #1. HE served as a speaker, leader, and liaison representative.

Pfc Leroy J. HAWLEY
US 57 504 797

SUBJECT was one of six prisoners who held office, a special job, and performed special duties for the camp authorities. HE was connected with the Peace Committee (this committee changed to Camp Club Committee May '53). HE was probably appointed or elected by the prisoners.

MAKUA, Richard K.] Cpl
US 50 001 626

SUBJECT wrote letters to be dropped on the American main line of resistance. These letters begged the U.S. soldiers to lay down their arms and give in to the Chinese as the Chinese were fighting for peace and gave POW good treatment.

MCEKLER, Richard] Cpl.
RA 19 350 787

SUBJECT appeared to be the chief informant. Usually HE informed on some one each day. HIS informing is believed to be out of loyalty to the Chinese.

CONFIDENTIAL