TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT: General - Operational

Specific:

Attached herewith is a list of the part in the package of the seven bodies mentioned in Reference Report prepared by JASJ.

RPP/Jan

1 Atcham

Distributions:

Wash. - 2
NIX - 4-3
Ost. - 1
Subj. - 1

LLOYD E. HESSE

Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC 2107 Note) Case#: NW 65987 Date: 10-28-2021
1. Zirovski, Lekovic BILJIKOV, was born in September 1926 in Belgewater, Plovdiv. He finished eleven elementary grades and gymnasium in Plovdiv. He was a farmer. From April 5, 1941 until June 1951 he served as a Trudyak in Bazar and Salcik from where he deserted on May 6, 1951 in company with two other Trudyaks, Stefan BILJIKOV and Spas MAKIN, Ivan and Peter KIFLOVU. Peter and Boris BILJIKOV escaped to Greece and surrendered to the Greek authorities on June 31, 1951. He is presently living in Levski camp, Greece.

2. Subject was interrogated by JABATRA, BULTRA, Drama Interrogation Center, GSP-1, GSP-3, and GSP-8. His story follows:

3. While serving in the Trudyak unit in Bazar, Jambol district, he became close friends with Spas MAKIN. Both were planning to desert their unit and escape to Turkey. Several other Trudyaks tried to escape to Turkey but were caught. Later he was transferred to the Salcik Trudyak unit, along with MAKIN, where he became acquainted with Stefan BILJIKOV, who had planned to escape to Greece. BILJIKOV was counting on the help of his brother-in-law, Vasil LAZAROV, a NCO in the infantry regiment in Plovdiv, to aid in his escape. Since BILJIKOV and MAKIN at this point were unable to do so, with a safe escape to Turkey, they decided to join BILJIKOV and go to Greece, particularly since all three were from the Plovdiv area.

4. About the end of April LAZAROV informed Stefan BILJIKOV that he had found a guide who would take him to Greece if Stefan could arrive in Plovdiv by May 7, 1951.

5. On May 7, 1951, ZIROVSKI, Stefan BILJIKOV and Spas MAKIN left their unit. They traveled on foot to Varna, and from Varna to Plovdiv by train, arriving on May 8 without incident. They were met by Vasil LAZAROV and his wife, Doris. LAZAROV took them immediately to a little woods near the village Belastica and promised to send a friend of his with food and armament that same night. The signal for recognition was misunderstood and no contact was made.

6. The following morning, the entire group went to Plovdiv in search of Vasil LAZAROV, Doris LAZAROV, and his wife, as well as Stefan’s uncle, Boris BILJIKOV. They left immediately to move to find Peter KIFLOVU who would take further care of the Trudyaks. Berislav BILJIKOV and Boris BILJIKOV were separated from the others and went to Bredolok where they were located by JABATRA, BULTRA, Drama Interrogation Center. They located LAZAROV and mother BILJIKOV to a hiding place near the village Surprise where he joined the other Trudyaks. That night all other Trudyaks were taken over by Vasil LAAZAROV who gave them food and armament with instructions.
On 8 May, Ivan Nikolov, BULGARIAN, told the Trudovaks and instructed them in the operation of the seaplane they were to use. On the same evening, Petur Nikolov took the Trudovaks to Sola Mogila, 10 kilometers south of Markovo, where Vasil Lazkov and his wife, Maria, were waiting for them.

5. Petur Nikolov and Ivan Todorov took the Trudovaks to join the Gorgani instead of fleeing to Greece. Todorov informed them that he was planning to organize a Gorgani group in Sola Mogila and that the Trudovaks should form the nucleus. The Trudovaks refused and insisted on going to Greece, and Lazkov promised to find a guide.

6. During the 11, 12, and 13 May the Trudovaks resided in Sola Mogila by themselves without food and then decided to return to Plovdiv and contact Stefan's father, Petur Nikolov, as they had lost faith in Lazkov. On 14 May Boris Polikov brought them food and ordered them to return to Sola Mogila.

7. On 16 May Ivan Nikolov brought one Illiev, also from Sola Mogila, who would take the Trudovaks to the Gorgani. The Trudovaks, having lost hope of escaping to Greece, had agreed to join the Gorgani. Illiev, who was to return the following day did not show up, and it was learned later that he had been arrested.

8. On 19 May Daskalov and Stefan Nikolov went again to Plovdiv and met Vasil Lazkov. Lazkov again promised to find a guide for Greece and ordered the Trudovaks to return to Sola Mogila. On 21 May Petur Nikolov brought the news that Vasil Lazkov had been arrested on 15 May and on 21 May, his wife, Maria, had been arrested. He also told them that one Stefan Stefanov, a lawyer, from Sofia had arrived in Plovdiv and wished to join the Trudovaks in their flight to Greece. Peter Nikolov saw some Security agents surveilling the lawyer and further contact was impossible.

9. From 26 May to 6 June the Trudovaks remained in Sola Mogila or other places in the vicinity and in wandering around the area their presence became known to the inhabitants.

10. On 7 June Boris Polikov advised them to go to Markovo and hide in Ivan Nikolov's place where it would be easier to provide food with fuel. That same evening they went to Nikolov's place and he explained to them that his brother, Petur, had been arrested, and they had decided to escape to Greece. The Nikolovs were to be joined by the brothers Polikov, whose house had been placed under police surveillance. However, on 9 June Boris Polikov came to Sola Mogila and told the Trudovaks that his brother, Petur, did not consider the situation completely compromised and was reluctant to join the escape party.
12. On 7 June the ZAZAROV joined the group and on 11 June the party started for Greece. On 12 June they reached the villages Kamez and Valevo. On 12 June the village Zvezdara, and where they were able to obtain food. On 12, 13 and 16 June they were in the vicinity of the village Stojkata. On 16 June near Kamez and on 18 June near the Greek border. On 19 June they crossed into Greece and on 21 surrendered to the Greeks.

13. The village Belesta is in the hills and is known to the ZAZAROV. LAZAROV was a legionnaire until 1912. He was persecuted by the regime and spent some time in prison. After his release from prison LAZAROV joined the Communist Youth Organisation and apparently had a successful career in the "anti-prop" section. With the help of a relative, Nikolva DOGOVA, an old communist, LAZAROV was promoted to PC in the army.

14. The subject states he never saw the Gorjani rebels, but he often heard of them and had listened to the Gorjani radio station broadcasts. On 28 May 1951 a group was seen on aeroplane cruising in the area of the village Fereidanovo, Plovdiv, which was allegedly attacked by the Gorjani.

15. In the village Belesta there were about 1,250 inhabitants but only about 20 were communists. Informant did not know of any anti-communist organisation in the village.

16. Informant did not know the brothers JUCNIKOV previously. He regards them as sold nationalists, energetic and honest. He never suspected them of affiliation with the State Security and believes they had ample opportunity to hand themselves over to the Militsiya if the JUCNIKOV were so inclined.

17. Informant also did not know Peter and Peris JUCNIKOV. He thinks they are both anti-communist and thorough nationalists. According to informant, Peter JUCNIKOV is of the exuberant type, boisterous and not very serious. Both JUCNIKOV blamed LAZAROV for all their trouble while they were in Bulgaria, but later in Greece they defended him. The quarrel between the JUCNIKOV and the PULCHEV was caused by mutual suspicion, mostly with respect to LAZAROV. The hatred and hunger endured during their flight to Greece added to the original misunderstanding.

18. Of the members of the underground organisation, informant saw only Ivan Todorov STOJANOV, who instructed them in operating weapons, and Angel Hristov. Hristov left a solid and positive impression with informant.
despite his age of only 25-26 years, Hristov told informant about his organisation in Plovdiv and Laskovo, and of his intention to form a similar group in the area.

Comments:
Informant is of no operational value. His only desire is to emigrate and he has made application for emigration to Brasil.