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EX - 786
5 December 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: "American Defectors to the USSR"

1. The attached material was part of a soft file entitled "American Defectors to the USSR", which was set up by SR/6 (Support) around 1960 and maintained by various SR components until ca. 1963. The compilations were derived from a variety of sources, and contain both classified and overt data.

2. In the fall of 1966, the files were turned over to CI Staff. In most instances, basic information was then abstracted for the US Defector Machine Program. In all instances in which the material was unique, or represented a valuable collation effort, it has been incorporated into the appropriate 201 file, along with a copy of this memorandum.

3. It is suggested that any dissemination of this data should be coordinated with SB Division and with CI Staff (CI/MRO), in view of the frequently inadequate sourcing and of the fact that disseminations have already been made through the US Defector Machine Program.

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- Orig - CI/MRO
- 1 - RID/FI
- 1 - SB/RMO
- 1 - CI/R&A/JLBender
- 1 - CI/R&A/chrono

*Sup. 1 R15
14/1/67 EJR*

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file

CITRYNELL

A 27546

CITRYNELL, Harold, 201-275418
10 March 1923, N.Y.C.
Draftsman and designer

1942-45. USA service; honorable discharge. (SIG file)

1949. Graduated from City College N.Y. as mechanical engineer (SIG file)

1950-58. Various jobs as draftsman and designer. Never any communist or communist-front affiliations. (SIG file)

1957. Unable to obtain steady employment in desired line (unidentified), he decided to go to the USSR. (SIG)

February 1958. He left the U.S. with wife and daughter, on round trip tickets. (SIG) wife Beulah, daughter Marilyn. (OO file). Wife only went along to preserve family unity.

27 February 1958. Entered the USSR from Czechoslovakia as tourists intending to establish residence and become citizens. (OO)

Early March 1958. After several days in Moscow he applied to OVIR for permanent residence and Soviet citizenship. At their request he wrote a statement of thirteen reasons why he wished to become a Soviet citizen. Within a few days he was notified that he had been accepted and that the Soviet Red Cross would take care of them. They had been staying at the Hotel Metropol and had run out of money by this time; couldn't speak Russian. (SIG)

April 1958. They were taken south to Khar'kov and given a one-bedroom apartment. A job was found for him in a factory making mine safety equipment. He did some work on the improvement of a carbon dioxide testing device and on a coal dust device, but ~~hazzz~~ what he wanted was to work on automatic and computing devices. (Maybe that's what he wanted in U.S. too.) His salary was above average for the job. (SIG)

Autumn 1958. He decided to return to the U.S. and requested an exit visa. He was disillusioned and felt that despite the official help given them, there had been a planned effort by his co-workers and neighbors to make him dislike the USSR. (SIG)

28 October 1958. He later claimed that his detention after this date was involuntary. (This may therefore have been the date he actually applied for exit.) (201)

28 June 1959. They departed Khar'kov by air for N.Y. via Moscow and Copenhagen, having finally received exit visas after months of addressing letters to government offices and influential people. At some time before departing the USSR the Soviet Red Cross (sic) requested (sic) that he sign a statement agreeing never to say anything derogatory about the USSR or anyone in it. (SIG)

29 June 1959. They departed Moscow by air for Copenhagen and N.Y., arriving Copenhagen the same day. He told Knæmb there that detention had been

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involuntary since 23 October ~~1958~~ 1958 and that the Soviets had attempted to use him and his family against the U.S. and might try again to do so. (OO)

3 July 1959. They were due to arrive in N.Y. (OO)

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