

SECRET

16 April 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SR/6

SUBJECT : Debriefing of Robert Edward WEBSTER (201 - 265472)

1. Subject, who renounced his US citizenship in 1959 when he defected to the USSR and who returned to the US as an alien under the Soviet quota in May 1962, was debriefed by the undersigned together with OO/Contact Division and Air Force representatives in Pittsburgh, Penna., during 2 - 3 July 1962. (See Attachment A for biographic data on Subject) The undersigned used the pseudonym, Rudy Valentino, while the following used their true names: Messrs. Keller Stewart, Robert Starling and Jack Tague, of the OO office, Pittsburgh; Major E. J. Zvetina and Mr. F. G. Jaycocks, of the Air Force Foreign Technology Division, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. The undersigned's aim was to determine if Subject was knowledgeable regarding detailed operational intelligence and Soviet Realities, while OO processed its normal requirements, including those of TSD, and the Air Force interrogated Subject along technical lines.

2. Because time was short, it was decided that the undersigned would conduct a chronological questioning and the OO and Air Force officials would enter the debriefing as appropriate. Therefore, the undersigned had about eight hours of debriefing opportunity and on this basis recommended that Subject be brought to Washington, D. C. for detailed debriefing.

3. Arrangements for Subject's quarters to be used also for debriefing were made through the Office of Security and Subject stayed at the Marriott Motel, Key Bridge, during 15-28 July 1962. See Enclosure A for a listing of staff personnel who participated in the debriefing of Subject; this listing includes the Aliases staff personnel used and dates on which they had contact with Subject. Enclosure "B" contains the undersigned notations made during various phases of debriefing and are attached for whatever value they may have in the future. Enclosure "C" is a Secrecy Agreement, dated 16 July 1962, signed by Subject and witnessed by the undersigned and Miss Eleanor Reed in pseudo. Enclosure "D", dated 27 July 1962, is a combination Secrecy Agreement and statement of truthfulness signed by Subject and witnessed by the undersigned and Miss Eleanor Reed (in pseudo). Enclosure "E" is a short biography on Subject prepared by Miss Eleanor Reed which can be used in the event of necessity.

RFB
Rudolph Balaban
DC/SR/6/Support

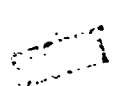
Attachments: A thru E as listed
For 201 - 265472

SECRET

CIA Staff and Contract Personnel known during 15-27 July 1962

EXCLUSIVE "A"

TRUE NAME	ALIAS	DATE
1. Rudy Malaban (SR)	Rudy Valentino aka Valentinov	15-28 July 62
2. Eleanor Reed (SR)	Miss Eleanor Anderson	16-19, 27 July 62
3. Victor Zima (AERIALITY)	"Dick"	17 July
4. [Redacted] (AERIALITY)	"Vic"	17 July
5. [Redacted] (TSD)	"Joe"	17 July
6. [Redacted] (TSD)	"Sam"	17 July
7. [Redacted] (AERIALITY)	"Leo"	17 and 26 July
8. Stuart Duncan (SR)	"Steve"	19 July
9. Howard Stark (OSI)	"Howard"	20 July
10. [Redacted] (ORR)	"John"	20 July
11. George Stone (IR)	"Glenn"	20 July & 27 July
12. [Redacted] (TSD)	"Bob"	23 and 27 July
13. [Redacted] (OTR/A&E)	"Mike"	23-25 & 27 July
14. [Redacted] (TSD/BAB)	Preston aka Pret Abbott	24 July
15. Dr. Charles Bohrer (medical)	Dr. Brussales	24 July
16. Ned Bennett	"Ned"	19 July



iZ/BA

Z's Expenses

Sunday 15 July

• 2100 Read at Motel

Monday 16 July

0930 - 1615 Read at Motel

Tuesday 17 July

0930 - 1715 at Motel Read Eleanor

1030 - 1600 (Vic) Dick w/ " " "

1715 - 1910 Dinner Hopote in Parsonage (w/11p)

1910 - 2115 Read (Eleanor) Joe B / Sam M

Wed 18 July

0930 - 1200 R, E, V, V of motel

1200 - 1300 Lunch

1300 - 1630 R, E, V, V, JB & SM - Leo at 1400

Thurs 19 July

0930 - 1200 Read & fish

1200 - 1245 Lunch

1245 - 1430 Read & fish

1430 - 1530 Jim & w/ pie

1530 - 1630 Read & fish

16.

9.6.

Fri 20 July

0930-1100
1100-1245

OSI - ~~Wesley~~ Steve
IR - [Geo Stone] + [redacted] 03

Sat 21 July

1200-1330
1400-2430

03
Kudi at motel
Kudi w/ RW out

Monday 23 July

0900-1600

03
[redacted] w/ RW

Tue 24 July

0930-1330
1330-1730
1900-2400

03
[redacted] w/ RW
see & attend 1120
Dr Bohler (psychiatric sessions alone)
RW & RW - out (Wass concert, etc)

Wed 25 July

0930-1600

[redacted] (concludes psych testing)

Thur 26 July

0930-1530
1730-2030

03
Leo & RW
Leo & RW - till 2300 (party)

Fri 27 July

0830-0930
0930-1200
1200-1400
1400-1630
1930-2400

03
[Geo Stone] (concludes debriefing)
Read & RW
Dr Go EA w/ RW & RW (feedback on psych testing)
Read & RW
RW for finances & conclude dictation & assessment

Sat 28 July

0930-1200

RW to help dry clothes & farewell

SECRET

17/07/2003
3/08/03

5 July 03

initial call by 4000

1. ✓ SH [redacted] 03

HART tag 5888 R4301 4E21
CS/ops support division
(S/USD)

[redacted]

Allotment # from SR for funds to
be paid for motel room & phone expenses

Call Hart when [redacted] leaves room.
03

Oral agreement w/ finance in SR

2. ✓ TSD authentication & others alerted re clothes
[redacted] 2001 Glen 1003
✓ FBI/1 03
✓ BTPB

3. ✓ Hart called [redacted] re [redacted]
[redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
[redacted] [redacted] [redacted]

4. ✓ Call [redacted] R-1621 also has
[redacted] to arrange [redacted]

5. ✓ Call Vic [redacted] to alert re [redacted]

6. ✓ [Brock & [redacted]] C-5307

7. ✓ CA Prop New [redacted] x 182

8. ✓ [redacted] [redacted] 03

(over)

9. Make debriefing schedule

10 Process Webster documents

11 ✓ ORR / Chem Bz

[Redacted]

Sept 14 12 July 62

R 1370 x 5321 4G21

see [Redacted] @ Glenn

12 ✓ OSI / GSD / ESB

Howard Stahl
@ Howard

R 1231 5011-2, 6050 SF 37

also

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

(Ass =

[Redacted]

13. ✓ IR - [Redacted] ^{Tell KGB Grand}

5510 R-1728

[Redacted] ^{the Stone}

14

[Redacted]

230 Woodmont n 2654

15. ✓ At Gunn

7793

Cramp for 19th of Feb wk

16. TSD / Lou Thomas 2209

17

[Redacted]

26296 G.D. 410

18 ✓ [Redacted] / [Redacted] ^{Nick Storcken / Les Kinnin}
R-1621 7321

9027 R

[Redacted] ^{Greg Stone}
At Gunn
At Gunn

19

[Redacted]

[Redacted] ^{Jackson PC for Poly}

20 ✓ Bolter

3029 x 311

15 Met Riv	16 Randy, later Rac	17 Randy, later Rac	18 Rac	19 Rac	20 5000 Howard 1100 Laguna with [Redacted] Randy [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	21
22 Pickup for [Redacted] before [Redacted] + [Redacted] [Redacted]	23 [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	24 [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	25 [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	26 [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	27 [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	28

B/R

1. Because time was short and three different office participated in the debriefing, ^{it was decided that} the undersigned would conduct a chronological questioning, on Subject's experience and ~~the~~ CO and AF officials would enter the ~~debriefing~~ questioning whenever appropriate.

AF obtained ^{and observations on} data from Subject on his employment with the Plastic Institute and factory in Leningrad; copies of their reporting will be forwarded via the Pittsburgh CO/CO office. DICE was primarily interested in all personalities with whom Subject had contact in the Soviet Union; this data plus Subject's documents, letters, etc., some of which Subject permitted The Agency to keep, will be forwarded to SR Division from Pittsburgh.

2. Subject appeared ^{to be} very cooperative and, in fact, said that he would do any thing to help the US Government ~~to that~~ which would help him in his own mind to erase some of the stigma associated with his defection to the USSR. Although Subject ~~was~~ returned to the US on 20 May 1962, having defected in October 1959, Subject apparently began to forget ^{details} very quickly; however, his ~~recall~~ ability to recall improved after considerable questioning and conditioning. It was felt that Subject can provide a great deal of OI and realistic data and arrangements were made to have him

travel to Washington, D.C. on 15 July 1962 where he will remain ~~for~~ up to two weeks if necessary. Office ^{where it} participated in the debriefing are Sr/6 (including the SRC ^{staff}), Sr/CA,

Sr/CI, TSD/BAB, TSD/PAB, TSD/ ; CA/PROP, and, if necessary, ^{Chief of Security} (only graph operators): OS/IGSO/ESS, Sr/ST/1/1, and

the following are some ^{possibly} significant facts derived from the preliminary debriefing: ~~and comments of assessment follow.~~

a. Subject stated that he decided to defect because of family problems ^{personal and financial} with which he could not cope and he took the easy way out. (Apparently his problem was associated with his wife inasmuch as he mentioned she felt he was not paying enough attention to their children.) Subject began thinking of defection during the ~~the~~ second in a series of three trips he made to the USSR as a representative of the Kent Development Corp., Cleveland, Ohio, to set up a plastics exhibit. He confided in no one about his plans to defect. ~~The discussion~~ ^{the discussion} between his second and third trips to the USSR, he collected personal items which he ~~wanted~~ ^{wanted to keep} during his residence in ^{the} USSR and ultimately gave full cooperation to Soviet authorities in the defection formalities.

b. A Soviet woman whom Subject met in a Moscow hotel where she was employed ultimately was taken with Subject to Leningrad where they lived.

(sic divorced - Soviet husband.)

~~in common: last marriage and where she gave~~
~~birth to their child.~~ Analysis of data contained
 on her and Subject's relationship with her
 indicates that she may have played a more sig-
 nificant role vis-a-vis Subject than what ~~she~~
 Subject believes ~~the debriefing thus far has produced.~~ (Although
 Subject states he has not yet fixed his plans,
 he ~~is considering~~ may bring her and the child
 to the USA - he said he signed ~~as~~ a Soviet
 affidavit promising support to this child after
 he is gainfully employed in the US. Subject states
 that he has not corresponded with her and does
 not plan to correspond with her except to send
 funds at a later date. (He added he has not
 yet corresponded with anyone in the USSR primarily
 due to his mother's nervous breakdown about
 for which she ~~was~~ recently was released from a
 hospital.)

KEU

Characterized by foll:

1. Blaming, usually, almost everything negative (example) on his wife.
2. Constantly (& frustratingly) avoiding exact dates and names of people, stating "I'm not sure, of exacting wording, it's been a long time".
"as I remember & the best of my knowledge" necessary always to ask lots many questions or review a situation to help jog his memory.
3. When pressed by the contract agent to try to explain detailed procedures to establish identity during various situations, KEU became tense and anxious, and sweat a great deal (sweat on face & water running down arms from armpits).
4. Life filled w/ impulsive actions & decisions w/o giving each much thought or analysis (examples)
5. Life full of dependence on his parents & in-laws for ~~at first, clothing & money~~ for 2-3 years after his deployment.
6. ~~lacked great decision-making~~ religious belief only, mental process, but failed to live up to convictions in actions, etc.
7. Tendency to digress from line of thought: in answer to a question, began narrative during which would grasp another subject. Sometimes, because it produced new info (serving as a self-jog) & he would be permitted to digress.

~~27~~
~~10/10/10~~
R.S. [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]

Problems facing 'si' now:

1. Obtain job
2. Repay father & mother financially & morally
3. Support two children born to his ex-wife
4. " one child " " for mistress

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The subject was a man of about 40 years of age, of medium build, with dark hair and eyes, and a serious expression. He was dressed in a dark suit and a white shirt with a dark tie. He was sitting at a table in a room that appeared to be a waiting area or a small office. He was looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. He had a slight smile on his face when I interrupted him. At the time he mis-identified YEGOROV, saying, "TRICOROV" ^I asked him why he used I indicated I when he already had said so. The subject was interviewed when the investigation was concluded he returned to his normal self.

1. ~~What~~ has dual citizenship?

2. Any time press, how do
think of his wife &
response to her.

3. She told him she willing have
abortion - if woman in Sweden
do a spy, does SIS tell women
to have an abortion.

SECRET AGREEMENT

I, ROBERT EDWARD WEBSTER, SWEAR THAT I SHALL NOT DIVULGE, UNLESS PERMISSION IS GIVEN, ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING MY INTERVIEWS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, OR IN ANY WAY USE THIS INFORMATION TO MY ADVANTAGE OR PROFIT.

I AGREE VOLUNTARILY TO DISCUSS WITH THE C.I.A. ANY AND ALL OF MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCES.

DATED: 16 JULY 1962
WASHINGTON, DC

Robert Edward Webster

WITNESSE D: R. Valentini

E. Anderson

~~SECRET~~

I SWEAR, BEFORE GOD, THAT I HAVE PROVIDED INFORMATION TO U.S. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES THAT HAS BEEN COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY AND THAT I HAVE BEEN TRUTHFUL IN EVERY RESPECT.

I FURTHER SWEAR THAT I WILL MAINTAIN SECRECY REGARDING MY DISCUSSIONS WITH AND ABOUT U.S. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES.

Robert Edward Webster
ROBERT EDWARD WEBSTER

WASHINGTON, D.C.
27 JULY 1962

WITNESSED BY: Clarence Anderson
J. Valentino

Name: Robert Albert Webster

DOB: 23 October 1927

POB: Tiffin, Ohio

Education: Attended grade schools in Tiffin, Ohio and in Zellenole, Pennsylvania. Graduated from Zellenole High School.

Attended Lehigh College, Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania - 2 years?

Attended Dickinson College, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania

Attended Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh

No degree received from any of above higher educational institutions

Military Service: (Years?) After World War II was in U.S. Navy as an electronics specialist. Navy service number 7917-22.

Family: Wife, Martha Murrell Webster, age 33, graduate of Zellenole High School, Zellenole, Pennsylvania. Trained as a beautician. Described as brown-eyed, pretty brunette.

Children: 1 child, age 10
1 child, age 9

Parents: Father, Charles M. Webster, ceramics engineer
Mother, Elizabeth Webster Address: 120 Zellenole, Pa.

Brothers and Sisters: None

Wife's Parents: Milton Murrell, Mildred Murrell. Address: Zellenole, Pa.

Physical Description: 5'8" tall, 145 lbs, light brown hair, 145 pounds

Personality: Quiet, introvert

Remarks: Wife called him "Bob"

Address at Time of Report: 18271 Tiffin Drive, West Tiffin, Ohio

Employer: Ford Development Corporation

Salary per month: \$515.00 (approximate)

Bank: Security Bank, Tiffin, Ohio

Activities: Member of Tiffin Community Club, Tiffin, Ohio

Report: U.S. Army, Tiffin, Ohio

Domestic Violence: None reported

Additional Information: He returned from military service in 1946. He was employed by Ford Development Corporation in Tiffin, Ohio.

He was employed by Ford Development Corporation in Tiffin, Ohio. He was employed by Ford Development Corporation in Tiffin, Ohio. He was employed by Ford Development Corporation in Tiffin, Ohio.

... - row - ...

... - started ...
... - ...
... - ... to Soviet ... records ...
... - ...

Soviet Citizenship

- 1. Applied for Soviet citizenship - 11 July 1959
- 2. Officially notified that he had received Soviet citizenship - 17 September 1959
- 3. 15 October 1959 Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs telegraphed American Embassy, Moscow to state that Subject had assumed Soviet citizenship
- 4. 17 October 1959 Second Secretary of American Embassy, Richard E. Snyder met Subject at Communist office of the Union and Registrations (U.S.) of the Militia at Fel'skaya Street, Moscow where Subject affirmed that he had applied for Soviet citizenship in July and had been granted Soviet citizenship on or about 17 September 1959. Subject had also applied for a Soviet internal passport which he had received on or about 21 September 1959.

An late August ... wife of Subject had called Subject in Moscow and asked ... children in East Cleveland ... the wife said she ... Subject called a ... Cleveland ...

Life in the U.S.

- 1. ... (1) ...
- 2. ...
- 3. Taken to ... Scientific ...
- 4. ... PLERENOVA, who he had ...
- 5. ... later ...
- 6. ... desire to return to the U.S.
- 7. ... decided that his ...
- 8. ...