

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GIR II

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman *LB*

DATE: August 30, 1957

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont

cc Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Central Research
Mr. Baumgardner
Mr. Thornton
Mr. Donohue

Tolson	_____
Archibald	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

SUBJECT: COURIER SYSTEM BETWEEN
COMMUNIST PARTY, USA, AND
COMMUNIST PARTY, SOVIET UNION

CONF. INVT. CG 5824-S

o
Solo

Sam 2-1 ✓

Sam Baumgardner

BACKGROUND:

We have been trying for sometime to produce direct evidence of the fact that the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA), follows orders and takes direction from the Communist Party, Soviet Union (CP-SU). If we are able to develop such evidence it would not only strengthen our case against the CPUSA but would enhance tremendously the Bureau's prestige as an intelligence agency.

We know that current leaders of the CPUSA have been discussing the need to establish direct contact with the CP-SU in Moscow. In this regard, Eugene Dennis, secretary of National Affairs, CPUSA, told CG 5824-S on July 29, 1957, that the CPUSA should start rebuilding connections with the CP-SU and suggested it would be a very good idea if the informant would consider taking a trip to Russia. The informant told Dennis such a trip would have to have more authority than the suggestion of one individual. Dennis dropped the matter at that point.

MEETING BETWEEN TIM BUCK AND CG 5824-S:

CG 5824-S, representing the CPUSA on July 3, 1957, had a meeting with Tim Buck, General Secretary of the Labor Progressive Party of Canada at Toronto. Informant told Buck that he is now a member of a foreign relations committee of the CPUSA and is being proposed for the position of International Secretary to coordinate contacts between the CPUSA and other Communist Parties. Buck indicated that he was pleased that informant had been chosen for this position and said if informant needs any help in communicating with Moscow or to establish a more efficient method of communicating with Moscow, he would be glad to help. Informant told Buck that he had discussed with Eugene Dennis, Sid Stein, and Fred Fine the need to establish direct

ORIGINAL FILED IN 61-7665-569

B

FJB:pat/jas

~~61-7665-569~~

THIS IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-30-96 BY SP3 BTJ/dsp
296331

MAR 25 1958

RECORDED - 14
INDEXED - 14

SEP 4 1957 100-428691-
NOT RECORDED
MAR 21 1958
KSCC

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman
RE: COURIER SYSTEM BETWEEN
CPUSA AND CPSU

CG 5824-S

contact with the CP-SU, Moscow. Informant also told Buck that he had conveyed to the above party leaders the information Buck had given to informant after Buck's latest trip to Moscow to the effect that the CP-SU would like to speak to a representative of the American party in Russia. Informant indicated to Buck that a decision would be made on this matter soon by the CPUSA and the big problem is travel papers and even if a passport could be obtained, the American representative could not leave directly from the United States. Buck indicated he understood and suggested that everything possible should be done to get travel papers from the United States and he could more efficiently arrange for transportation from Canada to Europe so there would be no problem of being stopped. In addition, he would communicate with Russia to inform them that someone from the United States is traveling to Russia.

OBSERVATIONS:

This is a most significant development of which we should take full advantage. The type of intelligence and evidence our informant could produce by talking face to face with Russian CP leaders in Moscow would be invaluable.

Leaders of the CPUSA have indicated dissatisfaction with the system of communication between the Soviet Union and the CPUSA. Within the past year informants have reported that an attempt might be made to set up a courier system but until now nothing as definite as above-outlined has developed. In CG 5824-S we have the best possibility in the Bureau's history of establishing a pipeline through which we can obtain evidence of a tie-in between the CP-SU and the CPUSA. Informant has established himself through recent trips to Mexico and Canada as a logical choice in the minds of Party leaders for this courier position. Informant has indicated his availability to the Party on other assignments and there is no reason why he could not likewise on this occasion.

One of the most favorable factors from our standpoint, should the Party select our informant as a liaison agent, is the fact he would have the position of CP representative and we would not have to establish a cover for him. This has been an almost unsurmountable problem in the past when we have attempted to set up such an operation.

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman
RE: COURIER SYSTEM BETWEEN
CPUSA AND CPSU

CG 5824-S

The biggest problem which will have to be solved in this operation is that of securing travel papers. If the party is not able to handle this aspect, it is possible that Tim Buck might be of some assistance as there has been considerable travel by the Canadian party between Canada and Europe without any unusual incidents. If the party makes any concrete suggestions to CG 5824-S regarding such a trip, we will have to carefully weigh the possibilities of informant getting into trouble through passport complications and thereby jeopardizing his future value to the Bureau. When the party gives CG 5824-S more encouragement and specific instructions, we will be in a position to properly advise informant. Since this is a most important development, we should alert Chicago to keep the informant aware of its possibilities and follow closely with the informant.

ACTION:

On 8-29-57 ASAC Schmit, Chicago, advised informant was going to Canada to attend the national plenum of the Canadian party on the instructions of the CP, USA. Thereafter he will report to the National Executive Committee of the CP, USA, in New York. While in Canada informant will inquire if the opportunity presents itself of the Canadian leaders concerning the possibilities of traveling to Moscow by way of Canada as a representative of the CP, USA. Chicago is alert to this situation and its importance to the Bureau's operations and the necessity for the informant to be most discreet so as not to jeopardize his position. Both the Chicago Office and the Bureau will carefully follow all developments and you will be kept advised.

[Handwritten signatures and initials]