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September 29, 1953

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

MEMORANDUM FOR: Corbin Allardice

SUBJECT: AEC Security - General

NND 932024
By HR-M/AN Date 5/4/96

On August 26, 1953, Congressman Purdy's office called stating that a Mr. Bertolotte desired to talk to someone on a theory he had which might explain the operations of the Soviet espionage in connection with the atomic program. It was suggested that if Mr. Bertolotte desired, members of the Staff would be glad to speak with him at these offices. Mr. Bertolotte was interviewed by the writer and Wayne Brobeck. George Norris was present during the latter part of the interview.

Mr. Bertolotte stated that his full name was Calvin Bertolotte and he resided at 255 West 108 Street, New York City. He added that he was an employee of the Telefact Foundation engaged in research in information control and world strategy. According to Bertolotte this Foundation was originally formed at Stanford University by one Ben Allen.

Mr. Bertolotte advised Brobeck and the writer that the facts that he wished to relate had been reported to him by Sidney Young White, whom he described as a scientist engaged in research in ultra sonics and now a consultant for a firm manufacturing air pumps and brakes in New York City. White had related to Bertolotte on several occasions the story of Lt. Colonel Stoutenberg of the United States Army, whose suicide in 1946 was considered by White and Bertolotte, upon his evaluation of the details, as being most unusual. Bertolotte implied that both he and White imputed espionage significance to the story.

The details pertaining to the Stoutenberg matter, as supplied by Bertolotte are as follows:

Lt. Colonel Stoutenberg, U. S. Army, had a "special desk" in Washington concerned with international patent analysis. All important developments relating to research and development were centralized at this desk. Stautenberg apparently had access to vital information.

Stautenberg was reported to have committed suicide in 1946, but White thought the circumstances surrounding the suicide most unusual. Some of these White investigated. He determined that the suicide allegedly was committed with a 25 caliber weapon while White knew that Stautenberg only had a 45 caliber weapon.

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Mrs. Stoutenberg was killed in the suicide melee and although White knew Stoutenberg to be a poor shot, the facts of the case indicated that Mrs. Stoutenberg was hit while running. The same facts applied to Stoutenberg's little girl.

White determined that Stoutenberg had mentioned to either his brother or brother-in-law that things had been missing from his desk some time during the period of his assignment in Washington. These things were reportedly missing only for short periods.

Bertolotte stated that to the best of his knowledge no investigative agency of the Federal Government has investigated this case. He further stated that one Captain Lavender, who is now employed by Fairchild Aviation, was assigned to a desk similar to the one occupied by Stoutenberg during the same period in Washington.

The writer suggested to Bertolotte that he might wish to report the facts of the Stoutenberg case to the F.B.I., since they have the statutory responsibility for investigating such matters. However, Bertolotte declared that he did not desire to do this since he felt that the information was privileged in that it had been related to him by White and he only desired to relate it to a Congressional unit, such as the Joint Committee.

The writer requested permission from Mr. Bertolotte to supply the details, as related by him, to the F.B.I. Bertolotte stated that he would have to check with White first before he would grant such permission. During early September 1953, Bertolotte contacted this office and stated that he did not desire to have the facts of the Stoutenberg case relayed to the F.B.I.

Bertolotte has also related this story to George Wilson, formerly of Senator ~~WHEELER~~'s office.
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Unless advised to the contrary, the writer will prepare a letter to the F.B.I. setting out these facts despite Bertolotte's objection.

FPC/eej

Francis P. Cotter *FC*

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