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SUBJECTS :

KENNETH D. HEITKAMP  
THOMAS R. PEASNER

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: December 24, 1953

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (100-0)

SUBJECT: KENNETH D. HEITKAMP  
SM - C  
RECAP - K PART II

DECLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/IKSR  
ON 5-7-95 (JFK)

5-1  
Army's info remains UNCLASS PER THEIR LET. DTD 4-21-98 SLD/IKSR 8-5-98 (JFK)

2/26/54  
See index

By letter dated November 24, 1953 Lt. Col. GORDON D. BUCKLEY, Chief, Counter Intelligence Division, G-2 Section, 5th Army Headquarters, Chicago, enclosed the record of the interrogation of Subject as a returning POW. He advised that the Subject was discharged from the Army on October 23, 1953 at Fort Sheridan, Illinois and his home address is Rural Route 5, Menomonie, Wisconsin. The Subject is not considered a security risk by the Army.

Pertinent paragraphs from the Subject's Army interrogation are set forth:

"Subject was captured by unknown forces on 12 February 1951 when his unit was overrun at Changhong, South Korea. He was released at Kaesong on 22 August 1953. He is 22 years of age, Caucasian, and has had 10 years of education. The Phase II interrogation was conducted on 29 August 1953 aboard the USNS General John Pope.

"BOBBY DE GRAW and LOUIE GRIGGS were members of the Pease Committee. These men were selected by the Chinese and then 'voted on' by the members of the company.

"Pvt. THOMAS R. PEASNER, age 26, home address Texas, and Cpl. THOMAS BEAVES, age 29, home address Texas visited with the camp officials frequently during 1952. PEASNER was later transferred to Camp #3 and BEAVES was assigned to the camp band. The following men were the most recent, frequent visitors to camp headquarters and their visits were voluntary: BOBBY DE GRAW, LOUIE GRIGGS, WESLEY BIER, EUGENE POWERS, and FRANK MASNEKA.

"THOMAS R. PEASNER, THOMAS BEAVES, BOBBY DE GRAW, LOUIE GRIGGS, WESLEY BIER, EUGENE POWERS, and FRANK MASNEKA received better treatment than the other prisoners.

RB:ecs

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"THOMAS PEASNER, THOMAS BEAVES, BOBBY DE GRAW, LOUIE GRIGGS, WESLEY BIERS, EUGENE POWERS, and FRANK MASNEKA received special instruction and training.

"THOMAS R. PEASNER, THOMAS BEAVES, BOBBY DE GRAW, LOUIE GRIGGS, WESLEY BIERS, EUGENE POWERS and FRANK MASNEKA apparently believed in the 'true value' of Communism and Subject believes that these men did not support Communism merely to gain personal favors. These men voluntarily attended study group meetings.

"THOMAS PEASNER, THOMAS BEAVES, BOBBY DE GRAW, LOUIE GRIGGS, WESLEY BIERS, EUGENE POWERS, and FRANK MASNEKA collaborated with camp authorities by supplying answers to any and all questions the Chinese had.

"THOMAS PEASNER, THOMAS BEAVES, BOBBY DE GRAW, LOUIE GRIGGS, WESLEY BIERS, EUGENE POWERS, and FRANK MASNEKA acted as informants and reported all incidents to the camp authorities as a matter of loyalty to the camp officials.

"BOBBY DE GRAW and LOUIE GRIGGS voluntarily chose to remain with the Chinese and had no desire to return to the United States. These men were very friendly with the Chinese.

"THOMAS R. PEASNER, THOMAS BEAVES, BOBBY DE GRAW, LOUIE GRIGGS, WESLEY BIERS, EUGENE POWERS, and FRANK MASNEKA had pro-communist leanings and reflected these leanings by applying themselves and cooperating with the Chinese. Subject does not know of any pro-communists among other United Nations prisoners.

"Subject hates the word Communism and what it stands for, and does not think that it would work in the United States. He states that he never listened to the lectures given while he was a prisoner and does not know what Communism really is or the reason that it won't work in the United States.

"All of the captured personnel of Subject's platoon have not been repatriated. BOBBY DE GRAW and LOUIE GRIGGS, United States Army personnel, voluntarily chose to remain with the Chinese and were last seen at Camp #1."

The following addresses were obtained from the diary of FRANCIS J. ~~X~~WOSNICKA, a POW and Subject of another case, which may be of value to the Bureau:

*KIRIA  
CHINA*

~~X~~LEWIS GRIGGS, 406 Kickapoo Street, Jacksonville, Texas

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BOBBY ~~DE~~ GRAW, Route 2, Box 251, Portageville, Mississippi

THOMAS J. ~~PEASNER~~, Jr., Route 2, Box 166 D, Lancaster, Texas  
or 4616 Gaston Avenue, Dallas, Texas

WESLEY P. ~~BIERS~~, Route 2, Box 136, Kimberly West Virginia

No further investigation will be conducted at Milwaukee UACB.

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