

Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination  
Records Collection Act of 1992  
(44 USC 2107 Note)  
NW 53217 6/20/17

~~SECRET~~

AT - 123

5 November 1964

INFORMATION REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Former NSA Employees, William H. MARTIN and  
Bernon F. MITCHELL

**REFERENCE:** DR-1827-64 dated 15 October 1964; Subject:  
AEDONOR

**SOURCE:** AEDONOR, a Soviet Intelligence Defector

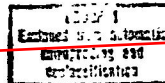
**CONTROL:** Liaison is not to be informed and no other action  
is to be taken on the basis of this report with-  
out the specific approval of Chief, SR/CI.

1. Source did not have any connection with the MARTIN and MITCHELL case. All that he knows about this case is what he heard in KGB gossip and what two KGB officers, Nikolay Semenovitch SKVORTSOV and Vladimir Mikhaylovich KOVSHUK, both of whom were involved in the handling of MARTIN and MITCHELL, told him.

2. Source stated that William Hamilton MARTIN (201-28338) and Bernon F. MITCHELL (201-232337) arrived in Moscow in the summer of 1960. He heard rumors that they travelled via Mexico to Cuba, from where they were sent by ship to the USSR. Source heard that MARTIN and MITCHELL were very knowledgeable and gave the KGB much information after they arrived in the USSR. However, Source never learned any details about what they reported.

3. In the beginning (after the defection) Nikolay Semenovitch SKVORTSOV, at that time an employee of the First Department, First Chief Directorate, KGB participated in meetings with them. He worked with them while employees of the 8th Chief Directorate (Cipher-Communications) conducted interrogations. SKVORTSOV obtained information on the structure of NSA from them. In the summer of 1960 MARTIN and MITCHELL, with SKVORTSOV, vacationed at one of the KGB dachas in the Caucasus, near the city of Gagra. While in the Caucasus, one of the two (Source does not know which one)

~~SECRET~~



~~SECRET~~

met a Russian girl who worked as a gardener-agronomist at the dacha and later married her. Source later heard that he did not get along well with his new wife. On their return to Moscow, each was given as a reward 100,000 rubles. After a time, they both went to Leningrad, where both were given apartments and jobs at different scientific research institutes as scientific workers, but with personal salary rates (higher wages). MARTIN and MITCHELL see one another very rarely and are not friends.

4. The case officer for MARTIN and MITCHELL after SKVORTSOV was Vladimir Mikhaylovich KOVSHUK @ KOMAROV, Chief, U.S. Embassy Section, American Department, Second Chief Directorate. KOVSHUK was sent to Leningrad in 1962 or 1963 to calm down MITCHELL, who often makes trouble and has expressed the idea of leaving the USSR.

5. Source has no information on the possible recruitment or operational utilization by the KGB of either of these men subsequent to their resettlement in the Soviet Union. He also knows nothing about the date and manner of establishment of initial contact between Soviet authorities and MARTIN and/or MITCHELL, the manner in which the Soviets established their bona fides, or the possible service of these men as reporting sources in place during their service with the National Security Agency prior to their defection.

TENNENT H. BAGLEY  
Chief, SR/CI

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Chief, FI/D/Close Support  
1 - C/CI Staff  
1 - SR/CI/KGB (74-5-118)  
2 - SR/CI/KGB

~~SECRET~~