

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
Office of the Commissioner
OTTAWA

Ref. No. 45.D.1866-3-4....

September 10, 1945.

BY HAND

Dear Mr. Robertson,-

In reply to your letter of September 8th, with which you forwarded copy of translation of Note #35, dated September 7th, from the Embassy of the U.S.S.R., in connection with Igor Sergeievitch GUSENKO, I am attaching hereto copy of a report dated September 5th which has been received from the Ottawa City Police, contents being self-explanatory. The only comment it is desired to make in connection with the City Police report is that it will be noted that the door of the apartment visited by the City Police was found locked and secure at 9 p.m., but insecure at 11.30 p.m. From the condition of the door it would seem that force may have been used to effect an entry, rather than by the use of a duplicate key as indicated in the note from the Embassy of the U.S.S.R. in Canada. Under these circumstances it would appear the City Police officials had complete justification for enquiry being made and the general circumstances surrounding the matter might explain the alleged attitude of the City Police towards the individuals concerned and which is made the subject of complaint in the note.

2. It might be mentioned that on the morning of the 7th instant, Mr. Gusenko called at our headquarters where, I am informed, he was interviewed by an officer of this Force. Mr. Gusenko was in a very excited condition and by reason of this fact was incoherent and exceedingly difficult to understand. He appeared to be on the verge of a nervous breakdown and all that could be understood of his remarks was that he was in danger of his life and desired police protection. This Force is not, of course, seized with the responsibility of the enforcement of the criminal law in the City of Ottawa, and in view of the fact that Mr. Gusenko appeared to be connected in some manner with the Soviet Embassy, he was asked to sit down pending collection of his thoughts. On being interviewed again later, his condition had not improved and the officer who interviewed Mr. Gusenko formed

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the impression that his mind might be affected to a minor degree but not to any extent which might justify detaining him.

3. It was thought in the best interests that if Mr. Gusenko's wife was to be brought to exercise her influence over him, Mr. Gusenko's condition of mind might be improved and that he would then leave the office of his own accord and return to his apartment. This action was accordingly taken and after some discussion between Mr. and Mrs. Gusenko, in a foreign language, Mr. Gusenko made his departure. As the circumstances of the matter were somewhat unusual and as Mr. Gusenko appeared to be connected in some way with a department of a friendly power, as a courtesy gesture it was suggested to him that he and Mrs. Gusenko might wish to accept transportation to their residence in Ottawa. Mr. Gusenko expressed himself as being glad to accept this offer and left by car in the direction of 511 Somerset Street West. However, I am advised that after travelling a part of the distance and subsequent to a considerable amount of excited conversation between Mr. Gusenko and his wife, Mr. Gusenko asked to be put out of the car at an intermediate point between Royal Canadian Mounted Police headquarters and his residence, and was last seen walking in company with Mrs. Gusenko, at a hurried pace, in a southerly direction. Since that time and subsequent to receipt of the communication from the Under Secretary of State for External Affairs and attachment sent therewith, Mr. Gusenko's residence has been visited but was not occupied at the time and it appeared that neither Mr. or Mrs. Gusenko had returned to it.

4. With reference to the remarks made in the attachment to your communication of the 8th instant regarding the theft of money perpetrated by Mr. Gusenko from the Embassy of the U.S.S.R., if we could be provided with further particulars in this connection every effort will, of course, be made to ascertain the whereabouts of the missing individual. If there is any record available detailing particulars of the description of Mr. and Mrs. Gusenko, together with photographs of these individuals, it would considerably facilitate our enquiries covering the matter.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) S.T. Wood
COMMISSIONER.

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