

DISPATCH

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JGGBA- [redacted]
HEADQUARTERS FILE NO.

10

TO Chief, EE

INFO

FROM

1911

This document has been approved for release through the HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM of the Central Intelligence Agency

DATE

15 February 1961

SUBJECT

Operations of the Central Intelligence Agency

RE: "43-3" - (CHECK "X" ONE)

ACTION REQUIRED

Activities of 4 and 5 January 1961 and BOB Comments

MARKED FOR INDEXING

NO INDEXING REQUIRED

INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY

For your information.

REFERENCE(S)

1. Introduction: We shall summarize below action taken by BOB staffers in connection with [redacted]'s defection, reception, evacuation from Berlin and initial handling [redacted]. Since, to all practical purposes, BOB's responsibility ended with [redacted]'s turnover to [redacted] and [redacted] (assisted by [redacted]) on the afternoon of 5 January this pouch will thus cover key events of 4 and 5 January only. [redacted] has prepared a separate pouch recording his subsequent activities and impressions which is intended as a supplement to this dispatch.

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2. Chronological Account:

a. 1730 hours, 4 January: Subject called the BOB switchboard and, in a brief telephone conversation with [redacted] confirmed "delivery of the package in about a half hour." Maintaining the V-Mann fiction to the bitter end, Subject added that KOWALSKI had once again specifically asked him to request careful and considerate handling of Mrs. KOWALSKI. [redacted] assured caller that all was in readiness and that Mrs. KOWALSKI would be afforded the most humane treatment possible.

b. 1745 hours: BOB staffers involved in this operation moved into positions as follows:

(1) [redacted] into the safe apartment especially procured for this purpose and located in the American housing area approximately two minutes' drive from the U.S. Consulate.

(2) [redacted] began covering the operational telephone in case [redacted] called after [redacted]'s departure with word of a last-minute change of cancellation.

(3) [redacted] and [redacted] took up predetermined positions in the Consulate: [redacted], just inside the main entrance; [redacted], near a side entrance that [redacted] might be using; and [redacted] as roving security officer to ensure that, if necessary, an adequate explanation would be given to Consulate employees and indigenous guards.

(4) [redacted] driving a U.S.-plated Chevrolet, parked near the main entrance of the Consulate to await [redacted] and the reception party's subsequent departure from the Consulate and drive to the safe apartment. [redacted] was chosen for this assignment to ensure our awareness of the gist of possible conversation in Polish between [redacted] and his wife on the way to the apartment.

(5) [redacted] parked a U.S.-plated escort vehicle across the street from the Consulate and took up a post in front of the main

APPROVED: [redacted]

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gate to the Berlin Command Military compound adjacent to the Consulate. This was done in order to cover the possibility of [redacted] appearance at the military gate rather than the main door to the Consulate. If this occurred, [redacted] was to introduce himself to [redacted] as Sylvanus and offer to escort him to [redacted] as Peter. If [redacted] insisted on entering the military compound rather than risk the short outside walk to the Consulate, [redacted] through arrangements made with the officer in charge of the military guard, would be able, on the strength of his phoney military ID card, to take two unidentified persons into the military compound and escort them to the side entrance of the Consulate covered by [redacted].

(6) [redacted] proceeded to Room 3025, an office in the U.S. Consulate especially procured for this operation and equipped as a listening post.

c. 1806 hours: A West Berlin taxi pulled up in front of the Consulate; a man and woman, each carrying a small piece of luggage, stepped out and proceeded to the main entrance of the Consulate. [redacted] met the couple at the entrance and introduced himself as Dr. Peter. [redacted] in turn, mumbled something to the effect that he had been sent by KOWALSKI. [redacted] escorted the couple up a flight of stairs, where [redacted] was waiting. [redacted] introduced [redacted] as "Sonderbeauftragter Mr. Drew" and suggested that the party proceed to an office, where necessary discussion could be conducted undisturbed. Enroute [redacted] asked if Subject's wife spoke German; [redacted] surprising answer: "Of course she does; she is German."

d. 1810 hours: [redacted] his "lady," [redacted] and [redacted] arrived in Consulate office [redacted]

[redacted] Once the party was settled in the office, [redacted] opened the business discussion by again welcoming [redacted] and what was still thought to be his wife; by assuring them that they were now under the protection of the U.S. element West Berlin and hence out of immediate danger; by explaining to them that, in recognition of the somewhat uncomfortable status of West Berlin as an island in the middle of East Germany, a U.S. military plane was standing by to fly them out into even greater safety - hopefully that very evening; by informing them that a doctor was also standing by in case immediate medical attention was needed by [redacted] or his wife; and, finally, by again introducing [redacted] as "Sonderbeauftragter Drew" flown in from Washington especially to receive [redacted] and wife. [redacted] welcomed [redacted] and companion on behalf of "Director Herkules" and stated essentially the following:

(1) All of [redacted]'s demands would be met--i.e., he and his wife would be granted U.S. asylum and, eventually, U.S. citizenship; they would receive the full protection of the U.S. government; and, finally, they would be afforded all support and assistance necessary to ensure a satisfactory resettlement in the U.S.

(2) The above guarantees were contingent on Subject's identifying himself and furnishing full background data; his requesting on behalf of himself and his wife political asylum from the U.S. government; and his committing himself to making available to the U.S. government all information in his possession deemed of interest--regardless of how long this might take.

It was at this point that Subject, with obvious embarrassment, explained that his companion, although to all practical purposes his wife, really

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was not his wife and asked if, under these circumstances, his mistress could still be granted asylum. When assured that this made no difference, [redacted] suggested that his mistress (hereafter referred to as Irmgard) leave the office since he had a matter of some sensitivity to discuss with [redacted] and [redacted]. While [redacted] walked the corridor in front of [redacted] office, the following items of business were covered:

(1) Subject explained that not only did [redacted] not know that he was an intelligence officer, she did not even know his true name. As far as [redacted] was concerned he was a Polish journalist named [redacted] whom she had met during one of his frequent business trips to East Berlin, with whom she had fallen in love and whom she had joined that day in an adventure destined to make it possible for them at long last to live as man and wife in the free West. Subject repeatedly emphasized that news of what was really involved would have to be broken to [redacted] very slowly, lest she suffer irreparable psychological damage. [redacted] and [redacted] agreed to maintain the journalist fiction vis-a-vis [redacted] as long as possible.

(2) In answer to [redacted] demand that Subject at long last identify himself, he produced from his briefcase his [redacted] I ID card and handed it to [redacted]. It was only some minutes after the latter had begun to take notes, that Subject suggested that this was a waste of time since this particular document only identified him under his cover name and profession. With [redacted] and [redacted] watching anxiously, Subject next cut open the inside lining of his briefcase and, after considerable fumbling and pulling, produced the document identifying him as [redacted] II. Recovery of the document from the briefcase lining took a few minutes and was interspersed with [redacted] affirmations that, despite his presence in the U.S. Consulate he was still in considerable danger--did we know about the [redacted] murder and did we know that the Poles knew exactly where [redacted] was in the U.S.? [redacted] copied key entries from Subject's ID card and asked the necessary questions to obtain his current and previous job descriptions.

(3) With [redacted] still pacing the corridor, [redacted] reminded Subject that he still had to write out an asylum request. After some discussion as to whether this should be done in Polish or in German and in what form it should be written, [redacted] dictated the statement, a copy of which is forwarded as attachment A to this dispatch.

(4) Although the minute [redacted] had opened his mouth when first entering the Consulate, it had become obvious that he was both [redacted] and [redacted]'s V-Mann, Trickett asked Subject to confirm this supposition. [redacted] answer was a bored "aber sicher."

e. 1835 hours: [redacted] was ushered back into [redacted] office and Subject explained to her that the worst was now over and that they soon would begin a life of peace in the West. In answer to [redacted] question as to where in the West, Subject, apparently for the first time, informed her that they were destined for eventual resettlement in the United States. [redacted] accepted this disclosure with the same stoicism with which she went through the rest of what, by any criterion, must have been the most surprising evening of her life. Her sole comment at this juncture was something to the effect that "ich tue was immer Du fuer richtig haeltst." Subject stroked her hair and kissed her - gestures which were to be repeated several times during the evening.

f. 1840 hours: Explaining that we now had information sufficiently important to warrant immediate "Durchgabe ans Hauptquartier," [redacted] excused himself, proceeded to the LP office in the Consulate and passed to [redacted] the information cabled in BRLN [redacted]. While [redacted] was out of the office, Subject for the first time broached the problem of [redacted] parents, awaiting word of their safe escape in the apartment of relatives in West Berlin. Subject asked if perhaps something might be done to help these poor people--especially since this would have a salutary effect on [redacted] peace of mind.

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