

11 July 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Penetration of ZIPPER by the West German Security Service (SFS)

1. The West German authorities recently arrested thirteen persons on charges of espionage for the SFS. Among the persons arrested were two ZIPPER staff members. One of these, Ludwig ALBERT, was deputy chief of a ZIPPER field base in the Karlsruhe area. The other, Robert KARSTNER, was a case officer with the ZIPPER field base in Munich.

2. The case developed as a result of the revelations of a certain Herbert Hugo WEINMANN, aka WEINMANN, former SFS agent who was arrested some months ago by West German authorities on old criminal charges. ZIPPER has participated in the case from the outset. Full results of the investigations following the arrests are not yet available; however, we are informed that at this point the case against the two ZIPPER staff members is convincing. Examination of file copies of reports in ALBERT's possession at the time of his arrest tend to indicate that, in addition to ZIPPER and the SFS, ALBERT had a third employer. German authorities feel there are indications that this third employer could be an American agency. We have no evidence to support such a theory.

3. The involvement of Ludwig ALBERT is believed to tie into a previous security case which ZIPPER has been investigating for more than a year. This case concerned the accidental discovery in the Stuttgart area of a hand letter drop containing a microfilm report on ZIPPER presumably intended for an Eastern intelligence service. The content of the report was such as to lead ZIPPER to the conclusion that it might have been written by someone in a key position in the Karlsruhe field base where ALBERT was serving as deputy. On the other hand, the case had certain other features which suggested that it was a provocation attempt against ZIPPER. The latter theory now seems to have been disproven by the current investigation which appears to promise clarification of this older case.

4. According to WEINMANN's testimony the following additional persons against whom no action has as yet been taken are in contact with the SFS or the KGB:

a. A female Russian emigrant who is employed as a language instructor in the U. S. Army intelligence school at Garmisch, Germany.

b. A male Russian emigrant truck driver in the same school who previously provided WEINMANN with information on the course of instruction in the school.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

32-6-7-5271
(Gen. On [unclear] Filled)

1. If female employee is an untrained American hotel in
Czechoslovakia - Bratislava.

2. An American soldier with CID in Wiesbaden.

An assessment of the reliability of the above allegations is not
available at this time.

3. You will be kept informed of further developments.

Chief, Western European Division

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