

LBX 495

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21 August 1946

TO : AB 51

FROM : AB 52

SUBJECT: The ZIMMER Notebooks (Ref: JRX-3748)

1. FELICITAS, now called GAMBIT, was asked to read through and add any comments she could to the ZIMMER notebooks. The notebooks themselves cover the period 1944-45, and FELICITAS actually worked for ZIMMER only from the beginning of July 1941 until October of the same year, being detailed from August 1943 on the Special Mission CIANO.

2. FELICITAS' comments, left in her first person version, are included as an attachment to this letter.

AB36/elm

Distribution:

- 5--AB 51, Amzon (with attachments: 1. The ZIMMER notebooks
2. FELICITAS' notes)
- 1--GAMBIT file

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ATTACHMENT:

SUBJECT: GAMBIT Comments on the ZIMMER Notebooks

1. Ref. No. 9, para 35 and footnote 2:
SDLA was the official abbreviation for SD-Leitabschnitt.
2. Ref. No. 10, para 37 and footnote 1:
FS was the official abbreviation for "Fern-Schreiben," i.e., a teletyped letter.
3. Ref. No. 15, para 50 and footnote 2:
ALPHONSE III could also have been a member of the numerous Bourbon-Parma family living in Italy and claiming the Spanish throne. In the summer of 1943 a "temporary agent," (a German prince whose name I do not remember) whom I met in Rome, was in contact with this family and trying to use this contact in some way for intelligence purposes.
4. Ref. No. 16, para 59:
Another woman radio operator was a Dutch girl, first cover name Fräulein HOFMANN, who was taken to Rome by KAPPLER in the autumn of 1943 and was supposed to stay behind in Rome after the occupation of that city by the British and American troops. She had been sentenced to death in Holland for espionage for Great Britain and was then trained in the SD Espionage and Sabotage School in Den Haag. I met her once in Verona. Apparently she was KAPPLER's mistress and was morally broken down.

Hans LECHNER, mentioned in footnote 1, was a trainer for radio operators. He worked in Tangiers in 1941-42.
5. Ref. No. 28, para 106 and footnote 5:
Ambassador Rudolf RAHN (without von) should be of interest to the British. Before he was appointed Ambassador to Italy, he was Consul General in Tunisia, and before that Consul General in Syria, where he tried to follow T. E. Lawrence's traces with the Arabs. I once had dinner together with him and WOLFF and RAHN talked about his Syria period with great pride.
6. Ref. 28, para 108 and footnote 7:
Prince von FUERSTENBERG's wife is not the daughter but the granddaughter of Senator AGNELLI of Fiat. Her mother is the daughter of the owner of the Suia Viscosa Company. This family is extremely influential in Italian industrial circles. I saw the Princess FUERSTENBERG in February 1944 in Lausanne (11, Avenue de Gramont) where she lived with her sister, Suni AGNELLI, a friend of CIANO's. At that time they were greatly worried about some members of their family who had been put in jail by the Fascists in Northern Italy. The Princess FUERSTENBERG wanted to come to Italy to see her husband but did not receive an Italian visa (issued by the German border authorities.)

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7. Ref. No. 44, para 155 and footnote 4:
 SS-Hauptsturmfuehrer Leonard KOEHLER was in Rome for years. He was originally the liaison officer between the SS and the Italian Africa Ministry; for some months he actually stayed in North Africa. He also handled the Grand Mufti when the latter lived in Rome.

8. Ref. No. 53, para 193:

It is true that the well-known Como family PESSINA (with some Jewish members) are friends with the Mussolini family, but they are certainly not pro-German. Edda told me they belonged to the few people she could trust completely and who would help her in any case. Later on, PUCCI told me that Edda gave them some documents she could not take to Switzerland.

VITTO probably means VITTORIO, Edda's brother, who had recently gone to Spain.

The PESSINA family is related to the wealthy Italian-born Swiss industrialist Carlo BIANCHI in Zürich (18, Bleicheweg) who is pro-fascist and pro-Mussolini.

9. Ref. No. 100:

BASILIOUS was an old agent of Amt VI whose main task was to establish a Georgian monastery within the Vatican. According to the deal, Amt VI was to pay all the expenses, which amounted to a considerable sum and could, in compensation, use the monastery as a radio-station after the occupation of Rome. I remember that the case, which was handled by SS-Hauptsturmfuehrer REISSMANN in Berlin was still being worked on in the autumn of 1944. (As I was informed by letter, REISSMANN died in December 1944.)

10. Ref. No. 120, para 363 and footnote 3:

There was also a German journalist in Rome named ALWENS, who used to work for Amt VI. I think I saw him again at KARNATZ' house in Cernoffio in the spring of 1944, but I am not certain.

11. Ref. No. 122, para 371:

The word is ZELLWOLLE (artificial wool) of which company, with factories near Rudolstadt in Thuringia, SCHIEBER was a director.

12. Ref. No. 128, para 394:

At that time I was simply waiting for a second visa to Switzerland, which I never got, and had nothing at all to do, but I was never asked to translate the documents mentioned, though ZIMMER met me several times at Cernoffio.

This is an excellent example of how ZIMMER used to handle things and make himself look important: much to do about nothing. The last time I was in the Amt VI office of Berlin (then located in Waldburg) in October 1944, it was bitterly complained that nothing had been accomplished in Italy; the whole IDA business there was considered as one big failure.

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