

~~SECRET~~ SECRET

12 November 1946

TO: AB-52, Berlin  
FROM: <sup>AB 51</sup> AB-51, Amzon  
SUBJECT: Future Employment of GAMBIT  
REFERENCE: BRLN 1372

1) We have taken under consideration your recommendation to withdraw GAMBIT from her present position with Economics Branch, OMGUS, in view of the fact that her projected usefulness as a "sitting duck", placed in a sensitive target area where the Soviet Intelligence Service would be likely to launch an attempt at penetration, has failed to materialize.

2) Before approving a liquidation of Project "Sitting Duck", we want you to analyze the reason why this project has yielded practically no returns. Unless you wish to maintain that the underlying concept of this operation was unsound, either because the Soviets are not interested in spying on OMGUS or because the chances of establishing the kind of fortuitous contact between an intelligence agency penetrating from the outside and the decoy planted inside for the purpose of drawing upon himself the professional interest of such agency, are too remote a contingency to warrant launching an operation of this kind, there must be something amiss about the way this operation was handled.

3) The term "sitting duck" may in this particular case have been the cause of some misunderstanding on the part of the case officer. The operation as conceived by the undersigned and Mr. Larry de NEUFVILLE was premised on the expectation that steps would be taken to direct the attentions of the SIS in the direction of GAMBIT rather than reducing

DECLASSIFIED AND  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2005

~~SECRET~~ SECRET

~~SECRET~~ SECRET

-2-

the operation to an altogether passive "playing possum" affair in which case the chances of getting a penetration started and effecting a juncture were slim indeed.

4) We believe that even at this stage the operation can be salvaged or at least be given a fair chance to vindicate itself. Here you have an OMGUS employee, placed in a position of trust and with access to classified material, who falsified her Fragebogen and concealed the fact that at one time she had been a member of the SD in a fairly prominent position and that her husband is a German General Staff officer. Any outsider cognizant of GAMBIT's secret would be in an ideal position to blackmail her. The consequences, if found out, would be rather serious because under the ruling of the Nuremberg Tribunal GAMBIT is a former member of an organization declared criminal. Put yourself in the position of an imaginative Soviet intelligence officer who has learned through one of his informants about GAMBIT's double life. Is it not reasonable to expect that he would try to apply his knowledge as a means of coercion against GAMBIT?

5) We would suggest that before throwing in the towel, you try to think out this operation to its logical conclusion. After all, you have at your disposal two channels through which you could feed smoke into the RIS system: WEINERT and EAGLE. Of course, this kind of a project would bear a reasonable promise of success only if GAMBIT can be prevailed upon to play her part in it. You may therefore want to obtain her views on its practicability before making up your mind.

Distribution:

- 2 - AB-52, Berlin
- 1 - Washington
- 1 - Ops (GAMBIT)
- 1 - Registry

~~SECRET~~ SECRET

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO

**SECRET**

BY AUTHORITY OF

Name

Office

Date

*Sec Dept*  
FEB 18 1953

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**