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Report No. VB/1154

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AXIS INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

DENMARK

March 1944

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2006

1. ABWEHR.

(a) The following description of Oberst Von ENGELMANN, Leiter of Abwehrstelle Copenhagen, has been supplied by a reliable source:-

Born about 1895, height 6'1" (1.85m), very thin. Able to speak French.

(b) A very reliable source reports that the official name of the Abwehr post at Skagen and its outpost on the island of Læsø is Detachment Skagerrak. This appears to dispose of the suggestion that these posts together constitute a Nebenstelle or that there is any Nebenstelle in Denmark north of Aarhus.

(c) The same source reports that a present or former member of the Detachment staff is a Hauptmann WALTER. He appears to be a Luftwaffe officer, and is possibly connected with the air-sea rescue service (Ger. Seerettungsdienst) which is the cover used for some of the small motor boats operated by the Abwehr in the Skagerrak.

(d) A reliable source in Denmark reports that the Abwehr agent, Erlend W. NIELSEN, of Copenhagen, who has been the subject of previous reports, is also the "Landesgruppenobmann" of the "Deutsche Arbeitsfront" of the Auslands Organisation in Denmark.

(e) The Abwehr agent, (Dr) Max RUSCH, who was one of those arrested in Denmark in November 1938 in connection with the PFLUCK-HARTUNG case and sentenced to 8 months imprisonment with loss of civil rights for 5 years, is now living in Labenraa, South Jutland. He is head of the department for racial research of the "Deutsche Volksgruppe Nordschleswig", which has its office, together with other departments of the same organisation, at Skibbrogade 7, Labenraa. He is a Danish subject and was born at Hostrup, near Tønder on 19.3.97. His cover as an agent of PFLUCK-HARTUNG was that of editor of the German propaganda newspaper "Bladet", published in pre-war days in South Jutland. The evidence produced against him in the Danish courts early in 1939 consisted of receipts for payments made to light-house keepers and fishermen for information about shipping. These were found by the Danish police when they searched his house. He is also reported to have been active at that time in placing German soldiers on South Jutland farms disguised as farm-hands in preparation for the German assault on Denmark.

Home address Algerneklostervej 24, Labenraa. (Tel. LA 3167).

(f) Another of PFLUCK-HARTUNG's agents, Peter RUSCH, who received the same sentence as RUSCH and who was at that time a bank manager in Labenraa, is now reliably reported to be in charge of the "Schatzamt" and the "Volksgruppenamt" of the same German organisation

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Skibbrogade 7, København.

Home Address: Lindsødvvej 3, Aabenraa. (Tel. 2406.)

(g) The officer of Nebenstelle Aarhus described in a previous report as Lieutenant STORCH is reported also to be known as Dr. STORCH.

(h) The following Danes are reported to be German agents, probably Abwehr:-

(i) HILMSEN, Arno Oskar, Factory owner.

Address: Business: Skærbækvej 14, ground floor, Valby.
Tel. Rø 840.

Private: Åkerbøvej 12, Rødovre, Vanløse.
Tel. Rø 839.

Description: Born 11.11.06 at Copenhagen. Height 5'10"
(1.78). Cleanshaven.

(ii) RIISEN, Knud, @ VARNER, Nic., @ HENDRIK.

Describes himself as a German doctor and travels as such. According to one source he is at present in Sweden.

(iii) REHN, Normann Carl Christian.

Born 20.1.00. According to one source he was once implicated in a murder case.

(iv) CLENNER, Borge Helmer Vang.

Born 4.11.09. According to one source he also has been implicated in a murder case and is said to be at present in Sweden.

2. SIPO & S.D.

(a) It is reported by a source the reliability of which cannot be determined that S.S.-Standartenführer BOVENSIEPEN, previously reported to have succeeded Dr. MILDNER as "Befehlshaber der Sipo und S.D." for Denmark, has himself been replaced by S.S.-Standartenführer HOLDER. Nothing is known about HOLDER, but it is reliably reported of BOVENSIEPEN that before going to Denmark he was head of the Sipo and S.D. at the H.Q. of Wehrmachtsskreis III, Berlin, and that he was formerly in charge of the Sipo and S.D. at Hilo, near Leipzig. He has also worked at the Sipo and S.D. Headquarters in Berlin, though in what capacity is not known.

(b) Obersturmbannführer SEIBOLD, who, as head of Abteilung IVE of the Sipo and S.D., Copenhagen, has been the subject of a previous report, has been shot at and seriously wounded by a Danish patriot. According to one report he has succumbed to his injuries. His description is now given by a reliable source as:-

Born c. 1914, height c. 5'7" (1.70m), weight c. 150 lbs, light hair, blue eyes, handsome face, straight nose, round chin, good teeth, cleanshaven. Has a light musical voice.

(c) A reliable source in Denmark reports that the officer in charge of the Sipo and S.D. detachment at Kastrup airfield, Copenhagen, has the surname WELCKE.

(d) The Sipo and S.D. in Aarhus are reported to share offices at Aarhus University College with the G.P.P. and the Poldgendarmarie.

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(e) It is reported by a source believed to be reliable that the only permanent Sipo and S.D. posts in Jutland are those at Aarhus, Kolding and Aalborg. The same source, however, reports that the G.P.P. has posts in many other Jutland towns and that one of these, at Silkeborg, consisting of 10 men, is commanded by a Kripo officer, Kriminalobersekretar WEGNER. It is not known how far the arrangement at Silkeborg is typical of the rest of Jutland, but it is reported that the Sipo and S.D. at Aarhus provide assistance for the G.P.P. in smaller towns whenever a sufficiently important case develops. The post at Silkeborg has the special permanent task of protecting General HANSEN.

(f) It is reliably reported that the Sipo and S.D. have opened a transit station for officers and agents who pass to and from Germany, in a newly erected building in Tøndervej, Aabenraa, where they can spend the night, change from uniform into civilian clothes or vice versa, and have their cars fitted with either German or Danish number plates. The premises include a garage which holds five cars.

The cover used is said to be that of a commission and forwarding agency, and it is probable that this is the firm WILHELM STAVE which has offices in the following towns:

Copenhagen:	Bornholmsgade 3.	Tel. C2345.	
Flensburg:	Rathausstrasse 6.	" 2201.	} Telog. Addr. "Stavedan".
Warnemünde:	} address unknown	" 247.	
Padborg:		" 346.	

The firm is owned by Wilhelm STAVE, who lives at Svane-
møllevej 20, Copenhagen, N, Tel. Ry. 3345, and his brother, Christian
name unknown, who lives in Warnemünde. Both have been previously
reported to be Sipo and S.D. agents. They were born in the disputed
territory of South Jutland and speak Danish and German with equal
fluency.

(g) The following details have been supplied by a reliable source in Denmark about the Sipo and S.D. agent SCHUMIGER of Sønderborg, who has been the subject of a previous report:-

Full name: Julius Gustav Adolf SCHUMIGER.
Address: Arnkilsgade 12, Sønderborg. Tel. 179.
Date and place of birth: 26.5.82 Germany.
Wife's name: Caroline, born 21.2.88 Germany.

He was recruited by the Sipo and S.D. officer JAHN, of Hamburg, who through local German influence in South Jutland obtained him an appointment as inspector of taxes in Sønderborg. He arrived in Denmark with his wife to take up this appointment some years before the war and both were arrested by the Danish police early in 1940 on charges of espionage. Their case was heard in Copenhagen in camera and nothing is known about the evidence given against them. They were convicted but were merely fined. They returned to Sønderborg and SCHUMIGER resumed his post as inspector of taxes, which he still fills.

(h) Hans Jacob SCHMIDT, a Danish subject born 11.1.91, is reported to be a German agent, probably Sipo and S.D. He is stated to be very well paid, to have once been implicated in a murder case and to be at present in Sweden.

3. THE SCHALBURG CORPS.

(a) Renewed efforts are being made by the Germans to increase the numbers and the quality of the "Schalburg" Corps by trying to recruit Danish Army officers who have been demobilised and inactive since September 1943. In order to do so the black German S.S. uniform has been abandoned and uniforms confiscated from the Danish Royal Guard have been issued to all members of the corps, who are now described in recruiting advertisements as "the only soldiers who appear in Danish uniforms".

(b) A German S.S. officer whose name (possibly a nickname) is given as BLITZ has been attached to the corps as a training liaison officer.

(c) It is reliably reported that the corps now has a special intelligence staff the function of which is to give direct assistance to the Sipo and S.D. in the detection of patriotic activity.

The following are its staff:-

(1) POPP-WIDSEN, Dr. Carl, secretary in the Danish Ministry of Justice and until recently lecturer in Law at Copenhagen University.

Private address: 4Barnstorffsvej 169, Charlottenlund.
Tel. Ordre 1577.

(11) KJERGENSEN, Teilmann.

No details about him known.

(111) THEISEN, Spløth.

No details about him known.

(14) FREDERIK LOOP, (Lieutenant) H. N.

Born 28.2.14. He was commissioned in the 1st Regt. of Danish Infantry in 1937 and has for some years been in charge of the Intelligence Section of the Danish National Socialist Party. He is a son of Oberstlieutenant FREDERIK LOOP, who has been the subject of a previous report as head of the Fascist organisation within the Danish Army, "Kongens Vagtmestre".

(d) Evidence of one use made of the Corps by the Sipo and S.D. is supplied by a reliable source who states that it has for some time been customary for members of the Corps to accompany Sipo officers on their visits to Danish citizens to conduct interrogations or to make arrests. They are stated on such occasions to be employed as interpreters but it seems certain that they are also sources of information.

(e) The following information has been supplied from reliable sources about (Obersturmbannführer) Ernst Bergmann THISEN, the commanding officer of the Corps, whose initials were inaccurately given in a previous report as "P". SCHALBURG.

Born 30.11.05; commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the Danish Infantry 7.2.31; promoted 1st Lieutenant 2.11.33 and Kapitänlieutenant 1.4.39. Until 1941 he served with the 7th Regt. of Danish Infantry in Denmark, but in that year he left the Danish Army on long furlough in order to join the Waffen-S.S. unit, "Trikorps Danmark", and proceeded with it

to the Eastern Front where he saw fighting and won the Iron Cross, classes 1 and 2. He succeeded to the command of the unit after the deaths of two commanders in rapid succession, von SCHALBURG and Major LETTOW-VOORBECK and he was at its head when, early in September 1942, the whole unit was recalled to Denmark, after having suffered heavy casualties.

It was at this point that the Schalburg Corps, named in memory of von SCHALBURG, came into being, ostensibly as a recruiting ground for "Frikorps Danmark", but in fact an independent S.S. corps controlled by the Sipo and S.D. with the function of assisting the German administration in Denmark in the same way as the "Statspoliti" does in Norway, and MARELSEN was a natural choice as commander of the new body. He is described as a more capable officer than von SCHALBURG and it is believed that he has made the Schalburg Corps into a more effective instrument for maintaining security than is generally admitted by Danish patriots.

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(f) A source in Denmark has provided the following details about Obersturmführer Mogens Kall MARELSEN, who is in charge of the Schalburg Corps training camp at Hoveltegaard.

He is a former officer of the Danish Army, which he left in 1941 in order to go to the Eastern Front with "Frikorps Danmark". After 5 months service there he was seriously wounded and invalided home. On recovery he went on a course to the S.S. training school at Bad Toelz, Bavaria, after which he was sent on a tour of France and Belgium to study S.S. organisation in these countries, returning at the end of his tour to Bad Toelz as an instructor. Soon after this he received a junior staff appointment at the S.S.-Hauptamt, Berlin, and it was from there that he was posted to the Schalburg Corps on its formation.

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