

Hawitt, Abram. 13650

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Neur N-8 18, 650 B

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*Germany
Himmler
Bormann*

20 March 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

You will note that in Howitt's statement, he refers to Bormann as having obtained a strong position in Germany. Below is a brief biography of Bormann, which may give you some information not heretofore available:

Martin Bormann occupies at the present time a position as head of the Party Chancellery of the Nazi Party and is a member of the Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Reich. He acts as the Deputy of the Fuhrer. He has been described both as the No. 2 and the No. 3 Nazi, and along with Himmler, Goring, and Goebbels is alleged to be the fourth member of the group designated to take over the control of Germany in the event of the death of Hitler. Press accounts in Sweden and elsewhere state that Bormann is the most important Nazi next to Hitler.

Life: Bormann, the son of a Lutheran farmer,

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was born in Halberstadt on June 17, 1900. During the World War, he served in the artillery. After 1918, he became a student of agriculture and was appointed to manage an estate in Mecklenburg. He combined this work with activities in the Free Corps, as a member of the Ehrhardt Brigade and as section leader in the notorious Rossbach Brigade, terroristic military organizations which fought the Weimar Republic. In 1923, while still a member of the Rossbach group, he was convicted to committing a political murder and was sentenced to prison. After serving one year he was released. He immediately joined the Frontbann, as a racial para-military organization, and in 1925 became a member of the Nazi Party.

Position in Nazi Party: Bormann's rise to power was rapid in the Nazi Party. Two years after he joined the Party he became the Gau Press Chief (Gaupressobmann) in Thuringia. In 1928 he was appointed district leader and office manager (Bezirksleiter und Gaugeschaeftsfuehrer) in the Gau organization of Thuringia. In the same year he was made a member of the staff of the Supreme Command of the SA, a position

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which he held until 1930. He was also Director of the Hilfskassen of the Nazi Party. In 1933, Bormann was made a member of the Reichstag and became Chief of Staff to the Deputy of the Fuehrer, Rudolf Hess (Stabsleiter des Stellvertreters des Fuehrers). Bormann worked with Hess in controlling Party affairs until the latter's flight to England. He holds the rank of Obergruppenfuhrer in both SS and SA, a Senior Group Leader.

After the flight of Hess, the office of Deputy Fuhrer remained vacant. A new office, Leader of the Party Chancellery (Leiter der Parteikanzlei) was created and Bormann was appointed to it. This office gives complete control over all Nazi Party affairs and the numerous party bureaucracy.

Political Position: The political viewpoint and position of Bormann in Nazi Germany has been made the subject of many rumors. He represents the SS group and since 1942, has purged many government officials, replacing them with SS men. He was reported to be associated with SS extremist factions. His closest friend is alleged

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to be General Zeitzler, an ardent Nazi who rose to prominence in the German army after the defeat at Stalingrad. Cables from Bern in October 1943 state that Bormann was associated with Goring in sponsoring peace proposals to the Soviet Union and that he has quarrelled with von Ribbentrop over German foreign policy. In internal affairs, Bormann has advocated complete US control in Germany. He represents the pagan group and has always shown a violent opposition to religion. His reputation as an ardent Nazi is not only demonstrated by his prominent position in the Party, but also by his record of violence and murder in politics which dates officially from the time he was nineteen years old.

William J. Donovan
Director

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Hewitt to Abram / 3650 B

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x Germany
x Bremen
x Himmler

20 March 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Here is a statement made by Abram Hewitt, whom I think you know. He was in Sweden for some time and these notes represent a meeting with Dr. Kersten, attending physician of Himmler, and the efforts of Kersten to induce Hewitt to go to Germany.

We have told Hewitt that he should not do this as I assumed you would not care to have Americans in Germany on such a basis.

William J. Donovan
Director

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SUMMARY

1. Many individuals in Germany are hostile to Hitler. Virtually no underground groups are as yet organized to overthrow the Nazis.

2. The only alternatives to Hitler are (a) the Army, and (b) Himmler. All communications between high ranking German officers are controlled by Himmler's organization. This leaves only Himmler as an alternative to Hitler.

3. Himmler's representative, Dr. Kersten, invited the writer to Germany to confer with Himmler, indicating that Himmler is prepared to overthrow Hitler.

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CONTACT WITH HINALEH

I. Background

What follows can best be understood in the light of the general Swedish position and the organization of Swedish economy. While in a political sense the Swedes are freedom-loving people and consequently more than 90% pro-United Nations, there is in Sweden a very deep seated fear and distrust of Russia and the motives of the existing Russian government. The Swedes, therefore, being a small nation, are looking for a counter-weight to Russia after the war. They believe that the only effective counter-weight for them is Germany. On this account and due to the fact that a very big proportion of Swedish foreign trade is conducted with Germany and that there are very heavy Swedish investments in Germany, the Swedes are anxious that Germany should not be totally destroyed. In fact, the Swedes would like to see the war brought to an end with the least possible destruction of Germany.

Swedish economy is organized in three general blocks: (a) Government monopolies, including railroads, telephones, telegraphs, electric power, alcohol and

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tobacco; (b) Cooperatives covering a large percentage of consumers' goods, such as flour mills, groceries, etc.; and (c) Private banking, mining and manufacturing. This last field is largely dominated by organizations controlled by Eskilda Hanson. This bank is controlled and managed by the Wallenberg family who have been bankers for a long time and whose foreign connections are the most important and extensive of any group in Sweden.

The present managing director of the bank is Jakob Wallenberg, who is a bachelor about 54 years old. He is responsible for the business of the bank dealing with the European continent, including Germany. His younger brother, Marcus Wallenberg, is responsible for the business of the bank dealing with the English-speaking world and South America.

Jakob Wallenberg is the permanent negotiator of the Swedish government with the German government in matters pertaining to trading agreements, barter, etc. In this position he has frequent contacts with the German government and visits Germany about four or five times a year. In his private capacity as a leading banker, he is in touch with a cross-section of the high ranking German

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financial and manufacturing interests.

I had known Jakob Wallenberg in 1932 when I was in Stockholm representing a trustee in bankruptcy of the International Match Corporation, the American holding company for the Ivar Kreuger interests. As a result of reorganization of the Kreuger interests, the Wallenberg's took over control of the Swedish Match Company and International Match Corporation, including their subsidiaries throughout the world. When I first met Wallenberg in August 1943, he indicated that cells were forming in Germany for the purpose of overthrowing Hitler and he asked me if I would be willing to meet with representatives of these cells. I reported this fact at once to the American Minister in Stockholm, Mr. Herschel Johnson. He cabled the State Department at once, but no answer was received in Stockholm. At the end of this first interview with Wallenberg, he stated that his friends in Germany were somewhat displeased about Hitler's true motives. While he was supposed to be entirely loyal to Hitler, certain changes were taking place in Germany which could only raise ques-

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tions in the minds of intelligent observers. Hallenberg's statement was made in vague terms of this sort. I took it to mean that there was some question as to Himmler's intention, eventually to oust Hitler and to take over the government himself.

Shortly after this conversation, Himmler was appointed Minister of the Interior, continuing to hold his other posts as Chief of the Gestapo and Chief of the SS. After about three months had gone by, I called Hallenberg's attention to the fact that nothing more had been heard of his proposal that I should meet with representatives of the cells organizing in Germany to overthrow Hitler. I asked if this meant that, following his appointment as Minister of the Interior, Himmler had succeeded in liquidating all of these cells, and that there was no longer in Germany any underground movement or group of cells worth talking about. Hallenberg confirmed that this was true, saying that, so far as he knew, there was no longer any organized resistance to the Nazis in Germany.

He gave it as his opinion that the only alterna-

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those to Hitler in Germany were (a) the army, and (b) Himmler. He stated that communications between high army officers were under the control and supervision of Himmler's men; that whenever an army cell began to form which was hostile to Hitler, Himmler let it form until he was sure he knew who all the members were. These officers were then relieved of their commands. This statement of Himmler's relations with the army and his control of communications between the officers was confirmed to me by two other Swedes, who were very well informed about existing conditions in Germany.

Wallenberg's statement that the only alternatives to Hitler were (a) the army, and (b) Himmler, was confirmed by every well informed Swede I know who discussed the matter with me.

Wallenberg's statements were further confirmed by the fact that the Swedes outside their official legation and consulate, had built their government connections in Germany largely around Himmler and his organization.

The Swedes coming out of Germany reported that nearly everyone in Germany thought that Germany could not

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win the war. However, they did not feel that their position was hopeless and would continue to fight. Their hopes were based on (1) a successful resistance to the Russians after shortening their line somewhere about the German border; (2) that they would be able to repulse the invasion launched from England; and (3) the devastating effects of their so-called "secret weapon" when used. The gossip in Germany was that this weapon would only be used when the invasion from England was launched.

Finally, all Swedes informed about Germany agreed in reporting that the doctrine of "unconditional surrender", announced by the United Nations, had resulted in uniting everyone in Germany behind Hitler at a time when the hardships of the war and the natural forces of disintegration would otherwise be disrupting Germany.

II. Dr. Kersten

In view of the foregoing, I was not surprised when about the beginning of October 1943 during a call at the office of a very close friend of mine, who was one of the key men in the Wallenberg organization, he handed me a card which read, "Dr. Felix Kersten, Medicinalrad". My

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friend explained that this was the highest Finnish medical title, there being only three living men who hold it. He explained that while he himself was not acquainted with the doctor personally, he did know that he was one of the most powerful men in Germany. He went on to say that even Swedish engineers employed by the Swedish Match Subsidiary in Poland had been caught and convicted of working with the Polish Underground. The Director of the Swedish Match Monopoly in Germany, Alva Moller, a mutual friend of ours, had gone to the doctor with a plan to have the death sentence of the Swedish engineers commuted, and this had been done. In addition, the doctor had arranged for two Dutch children, the son and daughter of the former Dutch Minister to Italy, to be given safe conduct through Germany to join their sister in Sweden. This had been done without delay, and I saw the children myself to verify this account. They did not, of course, know who had arranged for their passage but I did verify that they had been trying to get out of Switzerland for more than three years without success.

Since the doctor was renowned as a nerve specialist, an appointment was arranged for him to examine me on

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the pretext that I had vertebrae in my back which were causing me pain. The meeting took place and I found that the doctor spoke Finnish, Russian, Dutch and German but no English. All conversations between us took place in German. The doctor agreed to give me a course of treatment which he said would extend for about six weeks. This he did, giving me a manual therapy treatment which was designed to get blood into the nerves. The treatment was very painful and lasted for about an hour each day except Sundays.

During the course of these treatments the doctor told me about his life, as follows:

He had been a very poor boy in Finland and had suffered considerable hardships in order to complete his medical education. The development of this manual therapy treatment through the nervous system was entirely his own work. His practice had grown until, in 1928, he was called into consultation by the Court in Holland to examine Henry, the Prince Consort. He gave the Prince a course of manual therapy which was so successful that he was retained to become the "Heilbarst" to the Prince. He settled in The

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Hague where he remained except for trips to Italy where he treated Mussolini, Ciano and other high Italian government officials, and also members and officials of the Rumanian court and government.

In 1938, he had treated Himmler with great success. The result was that, when the Germans overran Holland in 1940, the Gestapo notified him that they would not be responsible for the safety of his family or himself unless he moved to Berlin. This he did in 1941. He showed me a Gestapo paper requiring him to move. His purpose in showing this paper probably was to try to persuade me that his removal to Berlin was not voluntary.

He became "Leibarzt" to Himmler and was retained by the SS organization to treat 21 of their officials each year. This required him to spend a great deal of his time at SS Headquarters. His contract provided for a salary of 50,000 marks a year, and he was given six times the normal gasoline ration for doctors.

He explained his presence in Sweden by saying that Alva Moller had come to him and had offered him 100,000 Swedish kroner if he could succeed in persuading

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Himmler and Hitler to commute the sentence of death for the seven Swedish engineers. He reported that he had talked with Himmler several times and had interviewed Hitler two or three times as well on this matter. He stated that he had refused the offer of 100,000 kroner point blank.

When the death sentence was commuted, the Swedes, through Alvo Moller, asked if there was not something they could do for him, and invited him to spend a two months' vacation in Sweden.

That I think happened was that he reported the offer of 100,000 kroner to Himmler, who told him to refuse it, but arranged to get the engineers' death sentences commuted. Himmler knew that the Swedes would have to offer the doctor something else besides money, and that there was very little else they could do except invite him for a visit to Sweden. Undoubtedly, it suited Himmler's purpose very well to have a representative in Stockholm who was not a German citizen, and a Finnish citizen would be much more able to establish contact with Americans.

During the course of six weeks' treatment, the

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doctor told me a good deal about Himmler. Himmler had started life as an agricultural student, and had remained throughout his life keenly interested in questions of race and heredity. He was fanatically anti-Russian, having a great fear of the consequences of the high Russian birth rate, and disliking the threatened mixture of Slav blood with German blood. On the other hand, he had a great liking for the Anglo-Saxons because of their similarity of blood and racial characteristics with the Germans. Himmler had stated repeatedly to the doctor what a pity it was that Germans had to fight Englishmen and Americans, who were physically so like the Germans.

Contrary to most members of the Gestapo, Himmler was completely honest. He lived on a salary of 36,000 marks a year, and had no interest in accumulating money. Furthermore, he was completely loyal to his wife, a woman some 10 years older than Himmler.

The doctor said that most of the ministers in the German government, such as Ley, were totally unimportant. Himmler's relations with Goebbels and Ribbentrop were very bad as there was acute jealousy on each side. I

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gathered that Goering was no longer very important as a vital force in Germany, and hence did not count a great deal in Himmler's calculations one way or another.

Martin Bormann, on the other hand, had been put in by Himmler in the party chancery under Hess, and after Hess' imprisonment in England, Bormann had taken his place. So far as the doctor knew, Bormann was still a Himmler man. My Swedish friends had told me that the SS had been expanded enormously and they believed included 1,500,000 men as early as January, 1943. The doctor reported that there were over 2,000,000 men in the SS in October 1943, and that about 600,000 more men were in the Gestapo, all under Himmler's control and command.

Himmler realized that Germany could not win the war. He was anxious to salvage as much as possible from the wreck and knew that the United Nations would not deal with Hitler on any conditions. I told the doctor that Hitler had a very bad press indeed, in both England and America, and that it was very doubtful whether the American or British governments would deal with Hitler on any terms.

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The doctor urged me to come to Germany to discuss Himmler's position with him, and to see whether a settlement might not be possible. He indicated clearly that, on certain conditions, Himmler was prepared to overthrow Hitler, and that he was the only man who had power to do so in Germany. I told him that I did not represent the American government, and that I did not even know what the current policies of the American government were, and that on this account, it would be pointless for me to talk with Himmler. The doctor then suggested that I return to Washington, familiarize myself with the position of the American government and come back to Europe.

He mentioned to me that Himmler was organizing his own government within the G.D., and that his two chief advisors on foreign affairs were Ober Fuehrer Walter Schellenberg and Dr. Braun; that he would be glad to get one of those men to come to Stockholm to confirm what he had been saying to me. Within a couple of days, he told me that Schellenberg was in Stockholm and would like to see me.

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I saw Colonel Schellenberg twice and he confirmed everything that Dr. Kersten had been telling me. He also pressed me to come to Germany to talk with Himmler. I told him that I was by no means certain that there would be any point in my coming even at a later date, and that I might have trouble getting out of Stockholm due to the very tight priority situation on the British planes. He at once offered to put me out through Lisbon, giving me safe conduct through Germany and France. He suggested that, when I come back to Europe, I come back to Lisbon, as the Gestapo organization was very good there and was, in his opinion, very poor in Stockholm. He gave me the names of 2 of his men in Lisbon, Lehreder and Breisky, to get in touch with them. He said that they would have a German passport ready for me.

The doctor reported that Prince Wied, the German Minister to Stockholm, had come with a peace proposal from the Russians to FBI Headquarters about the time of Stalingrad, and that von Papen had come with another one from Ankara in May 1943. The outlines of the proposals were that Germany should take about one-half the Baltic

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countries to the north of East Prussia; that Poland should be divided according to the 1939 lines; that Russia should demand the whole coast to the Black Sea, including the mouth of the Danube, and should go as far as Constantinople and Salonika, and should also have a port on the Adriatic. Ribbentrop and Goebbels had been in favor of accepting these proposals, while Himmler and Hitler were against them.

The Germans calculated that, if the Russians continued an all-out offensive, which they have in fact done, their reserves would be exhausted towards the end of April 1944, and that the Eastern Front might develop into a stale-mate in the summer of 1944.

The doctor also reported that British and American bombing of Germany was resulting in a very large increase in communism, as when people have their homes destroyed, as well as all their personal property, they are automatically thrown upon the state to provide them with everything they need.

Himmler's policy was that he intended to keep order in Germany under the existing government as long as

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possible, and was prepared to shoot 20 or 30 million Germans to do so. However, when the time came that he believed that further military resistance was futile, he intended to destroy all of the private property in the occupied countries and in Germany, in order to produce a mass wave of communism. He would then announce himself as a communist, and throw his lot in with the Russians. The Germans believed that, if it became necessary to do this, that with a superior technical ability and organizing capacity, they could succeed in dominating greater Russian population and obtaining control on the vast Russian resources.

I made no promises or comment to the doctor or the Colonel, beyond stating that I would try to get back to Washington and see that the matter was brought to the attention of the President.

While it is obvious that conferences with Himmler are loaded with potential dynamite, nevertheless, I believe that there are enormous possible advantages in such a trip:

1. A great deal could be learned about the

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German frame of mind, and the relations of the important Germans with each other. The weak links in their armor in a material, psychological and personal sense could be better explored in this way than in any other.

2. The possibilities of provoking a "putsch" or civil war in Germany could be explored at first hand. It is possible that this, if successful, might save hundreds of thousands of lives in connection with the coming invasion.

The disadvantage of such a trip would be the capital risk. The Germans could make out of it in their own press and radio. However, they are in a position to do that anyway if they choose to lie about it. An un-
likely but a consideration which has never yet weighed with them.

I hope that full consideration will be given to the possibility of such a trip, and I am, of course, ready to discuss the matter and modify this report in any way that is desired.

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RA# 2005

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Richard Hartshorne *RA* DATE: 16 March 44

FROM : Francis Williamson (Central European Section) *FW*

SUBJECT: Request from E.J. Puttall Jr., for information regarding
Horman. (Request attached).

Martin Horman occupies at the present time a position as head of the Party Chancellery of the Nazi Party and is a member of the Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Reich. He acts as the Deputy of the Fuehrer. He has been described both as the No. 2 and the No. 3 Nazi, and along with Himmler, Goering, and Goebbels, is alleged to be the fourth member of the group designated to take over the control of Germany in the event of the death of Hitler. Press accounts in Sweden and elsewhere state that Horman is the most important Nazi next to Hitler.

Life: Horman, the son of a Lutheran farmer, was born in Halberstadt on June 17, 1900. During the World War, he served in the artillery. After 1918, he became a student of agriculture and was appointed to manage an estate in Mecklenburg. He combined this work with activities in the Free Corps, as a member of the Ehrhardt Brigade and as section leader in the notorious Rossbach Brigade, terroristic military organizations which fought the Weimar Republic. In 1923, while still a member of the Rossbach group, he was convicted of committing a political murder and was sentenced to prison. After serving one year he was released. He immediately joined the Frontkueppel, as a racial paramilitary organization, and in 1924 became a member of the Nazi Party.

Position in Nazi Party: Horman's rise to power was rapid in the Nazi Party. Two years after he joined the Party he became the Gau Press Chief (Druckereischef) in Thuringia. In 1928 he was appointed district leader and office manager (Bezirksleiter und Gaugeschaefterfuhrer) in the Gau organization of Thuringia. In the same year he was made a member of the staff of the Supreme Command of the SA, a position which he held until 1930. He was also director of the Mittelkueppel of the Nazi Party. In 1931, Horman was made a member of the Reichstag and became Chief of Staff to the Deputy of the Fuehrer, Rudolf Hess (Stabsleiter des Stellvertreters des Fuehrers). Horman worked with Hess in controlling Party affairs until the latter's flight to England. He holds the rank of Obergruppenfuhrer in both SA and SS, a Senior Group Leader.

After the flight of Hess, the office of Deputy Fuehrer remained vacant. A new office, Leader of the Party Chancellery (Leiter der Parteikanzlei) was created and Horman was appointed to it. This office gives him complete control over all Nazi Party affairs and the numerous party bureaucracy.

Political Position: The political viewpoint and position of Horman in Nazi Germany has been made the subject of many rumors. He represents the SA group and since 1942 has purged many government officials, replacing them with SA men. He was reported to be associated with SA extremist factions. His closest friend is alleged to be General Zeitzler, an ardent Nazi who rose to prominence in the German army after the defeat at Stalingrad. Cables from Bern

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(OSS 23466, 23771, 23772) in October 1949 state that Bormann was associated with Göring in sponsoring peace proposals to the Soviet Union and that he has quarrelled with von Ribbentrop over German foreign policy. In internal affairs, Bormann has advocated complete SS control in Germany. He represents the pagan group and has always shown a violent opposition to religion. His reputation as an ardent Nazi is not only demonstrated by his prominent position in the Party, but also by his record of violence and murder in politics which dates officially from the time he was nineteen years old.

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Handwritten: *Handwritten*
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v OSS

March 17, 1944

Memorandum to: General William J. Donovan
From: G. Edward Buxton
Subject: Attached report
OSS Organization in Sweden

I recognize that intelligent hospitality extended to carefully selected individuals is one valuable method for getting information. The anonymous writer of the attached, however, sounds to me as if he had some Oppenheim here or the Count of Monte Cristo in mind - a mysterious Midas who exudes an entertainment rare vianda, priceless vintages, steam yachts, beautiful women and collects earth shaking secrets.

In a more temperate mood, I think any lavish entertainment would be more likely to defeat its own purpose. People with important secrets would not want to be connected with a conspicuous host in a country swarming with agents - both Allied and Nazi.

GEB

G.E.B.

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To: Colonel Buxton

For comment

Director's Office

(9900)

*Alvin Karpis, 1935
X ... X ...*

WRITTEN AT THE REQUEST OF GENERAL

DONOVAN

To

*Mr. Boardman
in Conn.*

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*Admission 18000A
Johnson & ...*

OSS ORGANIZATION IN SWEDEN

The purpose of OSS in Sweden is to discover and exploit the weak points in the German war machine. This is best done through the coordination in Sweden of the information, operations, and underground activities.

For this purpose an active head of all OSS branches should be appointed for duty in Sweden. He should keep in mind the need of a short-term, an intermediate-term, and a long-term policy. The short-term policy applies to information, operations, and underground. The intermediate and long-term policies apply largely to information.

For effective work it is important that this OSS Chief be given authority to act in all these fields without reference in each case to Washington or London. Anyone having had experience "at the end of a wire" in a foreign country will support this view. In order to keep this activity in line with OSS policies as determined in Washington, and in order to exploit to the fullest extent information available in Washington and London, the personal contact of the OSS Chief in Sweden with the Washington and London offices should be fairly frequent.

The only people who go in and out of Germany frequently from Sweden are businessmen, financiers, manufacturers, and diplomats. For OSS purposes diplomats are of little value. Further, the crews on ships from Sweden to Germany rarely touch more than the waterfront.

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and are subject to very strict scrutiny and control. They are, therefore, not prolific sources of information. The best sources of information are in the business group. To exploit this to the full two things are needed. First, ample funds for entertainment. The Swedes are very dull people and crave entertainment and amusement. They will do a great deal for anyone who furnishes them with diversion. To do so, however, in Stockholm is extremely expensive. However, I think that money spent in this connection would give good returns. Secondly, the people needed to provide the entertainment should be men and women of the world with a somewhat sophisticated background. The best people at it are playboys and playgirls who are used to night life, but are calculating and cold as ice inside.

Money can also occasionally be used for the purchase of information and the payment of travelling expenses for people the Swedes can invite from Germany.

This business group is also the best grapevine by which the desired information can be "planted" by us in Germany.

The OSS personnel now in Sweden is almost totally inadequate for the developing and exploiting of contacts with this business world. If possible, the personnel for this purpose should be selected by someone familiar with current conditions in Stockholm.

I am not optimistic about the results which can be obtained in the field of operations which are necessarily largely restricted to Norway. The present OSS Chief of Operations in Sweden, George Brewer, is a good leader of men and can be counted upon to get the

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most out of the Norwegians and others working for him. The GI personnel now in Stockholm is adequate for the purpose for which the organization was originally set up - to obtain information on the German troops passing through Sweden, German battle order in Finland and Norway, etc. However, for the development of channels of information to Germany and the Continent, which must come largely through the Swedish business group, OSS needs more people and people of a different background.

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WRITER AT THE REQUEST OF GENERAL

DONOVAN

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Adolf Hitler 1935-0
V. Kersten, Berlin
V. Kersten, Berlin

SUMMARY

1. Many individuals in Germany are hostile to Hitler. Virtually no underground groups are as yet organized to overthrow the Nazis.
2. The only alternatives to Hitler are (a) the Army and (b) Himmler. All communications between high ranking German officers are controlled by Himmler's organization. This leaves only Himmler as an alternative to Hitler.
3. Himmler's representative, Dr. Kersten, invited the writer to Germany to confer with Himmler, indicating that Himmler is prepared to overthrow Hitler.

SECRET

*Committee Report 1950
X Swedish Economic
X Swedish Govt*

CONTACT WITH HIMMLER

I. Background

What follows can best be understood in the light of the general Swedish position and the organization of Swedish economy. While in economic matters the Swedes are freedom-loving people and consequently more than 90% pro-United Nations, there is in Sweden a very deep seated fear and distrust of Russia and the motives of the existing Russian government. The Swedes, therefore, being a small nation are looking for a counter-weight to Russia after the war. They believe that the only effective counter-weight for them is Germany. On this account and due to the fact that a very big proportion of Swedish trade is conducted with Germany and that there are very heavy Swedish investments in Germany, the Swedes are anxious that Germany should not be totally destroyed. In fact the Swedes would like to see the war brought to an end with the least possible destruction of Germany.

Swedish economy is organized in three general blocks: (a) government monopolies, including railroads, telephones, telegraphs, electric power, alcohol and tobacco; (b) cooperatives covering a large percentage of commercial goods such as flour mills, groceries, etc.; (c) private banking, mining and manufacturing. This field is directly dominated by organizations controlled by Erikilda Banken. Erikilda Banken is controlled and managed by the Vollenberg family who have been bankers for a long time and whose foreign connections are the most important and extensive of any group in Sweden.

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The present managing director of the bank is ⁵Yakob Wallenberg who is a bachelor about 54 years old. He is responsible for the business of the bank dealing with the European continent, including Germany. His younger brother, Marcus Wallenberg, is responsible for the business of the bank dealing with the English-speaking world and South America.

Yakob Wallenberg is the permanent negotiator of the Swedish government with the German government in matters pertaining to trading agreements, ^{but he} ~~borrowing~~, etc. In this position he has frequent contacts with the German government and visits Germany about four or five times a year. In his private capacity as a leading banker, he is in touch with a cross-section of the high ranking German financial and manufacturing interests.

I had known ⁵Yakob Wallenberg in 1932 when I was in Stockholm representing a trustee in bankruptcy of the International Match Corporation, the American Holding Co. for the Ivar Kreuger interests. As a result of reorganization of the Kreuger interests, the Wallenberg's took over control of the Swedish Match Co. and International Match including their subsidiaries throughout the world. When I first saw Wallenberg in August 1943, he indicated that cells were forming in Germany for the purpose of overthrowing Hitler and he asked me if I would be willing to meet with representatives of the cells. I reported this fact at once to the American Minister in Stockholm, Mr. Robert Johnson. He cabled the State Department at once but no answer was received in Stockholm. At the end of this first interview with Wallenberg, he stated that his friends in Germany were somewhat confused about Hitler's true motives. While he was supposed to be entirely loyal to Hitler certain changes were taking place in Germany

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which could only raise questions in the minds of intelligent observers. Wallenberg's statement was made in conveying terms such as the foregoing. I took it to mean that there was some question as to Himmler's intention, to eventually oust Hitler and to take over the government himself.

Shortly after this conversation Himmler was appointed as Minister of the Interior continuing to hold his other posts as Chief of the Gestapo and Chief of the SS. After about three months had gone by, I called Wallenberg's attention to the fact that nothing more had been heard of his proposal that I should meet with representatives of the cells organizing in Germany to overthrow Hitler. I asked if this meant that following his appointment as Minister of the Interior Himmler had succeeded in liquidating all of these cells and that there was no longer in Germany any underground movement or group of cells worth talking about. Wallenberg confirmed that this was true, saying that so far as he knew there was no longer any organized resistance to the Nazis in Germany.

Wallenberg's conclusion that the only alternatives to Hitler in Germany were (a) the army, and (b) Himmler. He stated that communications between high army officers were under the control and supervision of Himmler's men; that whenever an army cell began to form which was hostile to Hitler, Himmler let it form until he was sure he knew who all the members were. These officers were then relieved of their commands. His statement of Himmler's relations with the army and his control of communications between the officers was confirmed to me by two other sources who were very well informed about existing conditions in Germany.

Wallenberg's statement that the only alternatives to Hitler were

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(a) the army and (b) Himmler, was confirmed by every well informed Swede I knew who discussed the matter with me.

Wallenberg's statements were further confirmed by the fact that the Swedes outside their official legation and consulate had built their government connections in Germany largely around Himmler and his organization.

The Swedes coming out of Germany reported that nearly everyone in Germany thought that Germany could not win the war. However, they did not feel that their position was hopeless and would continue to fight. Their hopes were based on (1) a successful resistance to the Russians after shortening their line somewhere about the German border; (2) that they would be able to repulse the invasion launched from England; (3) the devastating effects of their so-called "secret weapon" when used. The gossip in Germany was that this weapon would only be used when the invasion of England was launched.

Finally, all Swedes informed about Germany agreed in reporting that the doctrine of unconditional surrender announced by the United Nations had resulted in uniting everyone in Germany behind Hitler at a time when the hardships of the war and the natural force of disintegration would otherwise have ~~disrupted~~ ^{disrupted} Germany.

II. FELIX PEN

In view of the foregoing I was not surprised when about the beginning of October 1943 during a call at the office of a very close friend of mine who was one of the key men in the Wallenberg organization he handed me a card which read, "Dr. Felix Gersten, Medizinrath". My friend explained that this was the highest Finnish medical title and that only three living men who hold it. He explained that

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while he himself was not acquainted with the doctor personally, he did know that he was one of the most powerful men in Germany. He went on to say that seven Swedish engineers employed by the Swedish Match Subsidiary in Poland had been caught and convicted of working with the Polish Underground. The director of the Swedish Match monopoly in Germany, Alva Moller, a mutual friend of ours, had gone to the doctor with a plea to have the death sentence of the Swedish engineers commuted, and this had been done. In addition, the doctor had arranged for two Dutch children, the son and daughter of the former Dutch Minister to Italy to be given safe conduct through Germany to join their sister in Sweden. This had been done without delay and I saw the children myself to verify this account. They did not, of course, know who had arranged for their passage but I did verify that they had been trying to get out of Switzerland for more than three years without success.

Since the doctor was renowned as a nerve specialist, an appointment was arranged for him to examine me on the pretext that I had vertebrae in my back which were causing me pain. The meeting took place and I found that the doctor spoke Finnish, Hungarian, Dutch and German but no English. All conversations between us took place in German. The doctor agreed to give me a course of treatment which he said would extend for about six weeks. This he did, giving me a manual therapy treatment which was designed to get blood into the nerves. The treatment was very painful and lasted for about an hour every day except Sundays.

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During the course of these treatments the doctor told me about his life as follows:

He had been a very poor boy in Finland and had suffered considerable hardships in order to complete his medical education. The development of this manual therapy treatment throughout the nervous system was entirely his own work. His practice had grown until in 1928 he was called into consultation by the Court in Holland to examine Henry, the Prince consort. He gave the Prince a course of manual therapy which was so successful that he was retained to become the "leibarzt" to the prince. He settled in The Hague where he remained except for trips to Italy where he treated Mussolini, Ciano and other high Italian government officials and also members and officials of the Rumanian court and government.

In 1938 he had treated Himmler with great success. The result was that when the Germans overran Holland in 1940, the Gestapo notified him that they would not be responsible for the safety of his family or himself unless he moved to Berlin. This he did in 1941. He showed me a Gestapo paper requiring him to move. His purpose in showing this paper probably was to try to persuade me that his removal to Berlin was not voluntary.

He became "leibarzt" to Himmler and was retained by the SS organization to treat 21 of their officials each year. This required him to spend a great deal of his time at SS Headquarters. His contract provided for a salary of 60,000 marks a year and he was given six times the normal gasoline ration for doctors.

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repentedly to the doctor what a pity it was that Germans had to fight Englishmen and Americans who were physically so like the Germans.

Contrary to most members of the Gestapo, Himmler was completely honest. He lived on a salary of 36,000 marks a year and had no interest in accumulating money. Furthermore, he was completely loyal to his wife, a woman some 10 years older than Himmler.

The doctor said that most of the ministers in the German government such as Ley were totally unimportant. Himmler's relations with Goebbels and Ribbentrop were very bad as there was acute jealousy on each side. I gathered that Goering was no longer very important as a vital force in Germany and hence did not count a great deal in Himmler's calculations one way or another.

Bertin Hermann on the other hand had been put in by Himmler in the early chancery under Heese and after Heese's imprisonment in England, Hermann had taken his place. So far as the doctor knew Hermann was still a Himmler man. My Swedish friends had told me that the SS had been expanded enormously and they believed included 1,000,000 men as early as January 1944. The doctor reported that there were over 1,000,000 men in the SS in October 1943 and that about 600,000 more men were in the Gestapo, all under Himmler's control and command.

Himmler realized that Germany could not win the war. He was anxious to salvage as much as possible from the wreck and knew that the United States would not deal with Hitler on any conditions. I told the doctor that Himmler had a very bad press indeed, both England and America and that it was very doubtful whether the American or British governments

SECRET

would deal with Himmler on any terms.

The doctor urged me to come to Germany to discuss Himmler's position with him and to see whether a settlement might not be possible. He indicated clearly that, on certain conditions Himmler was prepared to overthrow Hitler and that he was the only man who had power to do so in Germany. I told him that I did not represent the American Government and that I did not even know what the current policies of the American Government were and that on this account it would be pointless for me to talk with Himmler. The doctor then suggested that I return to Washington, familiarize myself with the position of the American Government and come back to Europe.

He mentioned to me that Himmler was organizing his own government within the Reich and that his two chief advisors on foreign affairs were Oberst Walter Schellenberg and Dr. Bruno; that he could be persuaded to get one of these men to come to Stockholm to confirm what he had been saying to me. Within a couple of days, he told me that Schellenberg was in Stockholm and would like to meet me.

I saw Col. Schellenberg twice and he confirmed everything that Dr. Goebbels had been telling me. He also pressed me to come to Germany to see Hitler. I told him that I was by no means certain that there would be any point in my coming even if a later date and that I might have trouble getting out of Stockholm as to the matter of Hitler's position on the Schellenberg plan. He then offered to get me out through Lisbon giving me a passport and a travel document. He suggested that when I come back

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to Europe I come back to Lisbon as the Gestapo organization was very good there and was in his opinion very poor in Stockholm. He gave me the names of 2 of his men in Lisbon, Schrowder and Urelsky to get in touch with them. He said that they would have a German passport ready for me.

Col. Schellenberg also asked me if I knew Allen Dulles. I said that I did as he had been a New York lawyer and had also practiced law in New York. The Colonel stated that Allen Dulles was the head of the American Intelligence Service in Switzerland; that the Gestapo was watching him 24 hours a day and that they were feeding him information through people sent to see him. I do not know why Colonel Schellenberg made this statement to me.

The German knowledge of Allen Dulles' activity was confirmed by the statement to me of a German Count ^{von} ~~Myndshuon~~ who was passing through Sweden on his way to Finland. He reported that there had been a plot among a cell of German officers to assassinate Hitler and that they had sent an embassy to get in touch with American intelligence in Switzerland with a view to obtaining help for the success of their effort from the Americans. This embassy had been arrested by the Gestapo on their return to Germany and had disappeared. ~~Myndshuon~~ believed that the Germans had succeeded in decoding the American cipher from Switzerland and had learned about the plot in the U.S. However, there was no evidence to support his statement.

The doctor reported that Prince Med, the German Minister to Stockholm had come with a peace proposal from the Russians to the British about the time of Churchill and that Von Papen had come with

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another one from Ankara in May 1943. The outlines of the proposals was that Germany should take about one-half the Baltic countries to the north of East Prussia; that Poland should be divided according to the 1939 lines; that Russia should demand the whole coast to the Black Sea including the mouth of the Danube and should go as far as Constantinople and Salonica and should also have a port on the Adriatic. Ribbentrop and Goebbels had been in favor of accepting these proposals while Himmler and Hitler were against them.

The Germans calculated that if the Russians continued an all out offensive which they have in fact done that their reserves would be exhausted toward the end of April 1944 and that the Eastern Front might develop into a stalemate in the summer of 1944.

The doctor also reported that British and American bombing of Germany was resulting in a very large increase in communism, as when people have their homes destroyed and all their personal property and are automatically thrown upon the state to provide them with everything they need.

Himmler's policy was that he intended to keep order in Germany under the existing government as long as possible and was prepared to shoot 20 or 30 million Germans to do so. However, when the time came that he believed that further military resistance was ^{impossible} ~~found~~, he intended to destroy all of the private property in the occupied countries and in Germany in order to produce a mass wave of communism. He would then announce himself as a communist. The Germans believed that if it became necessary to do this with a superior technical ability and organizing capacity they could succeed in

SECRET

- 18 -

dominating greater Russian speculation and obtaining control on the vast Russian resources.

I made no promises or comment to the doctor on the Colonel beyond stating that I would try to get back to Washington and see that the matter was brought to the attention of the President. While it is obvious that conferences with Himmler are loaded with potential dynamite, nevertheless I believe that there are enormous possible advantages in such a trip:

1. A great deal could be learned about German frame of mind and the relations of the important Germans with each other. The weak links in their armor in a psychological and personal sense could be better explored in this way than in any other.

2. The possibilities of provoking a civil war in Germany could be explored at first hand. It is possible that this if successful might save hundred of thousands of lives in connection with the coming invasion. The disadvantages of such a trip would be the capital which the Germans could make out of it in their own press and radio. However, they are in a position to do that anyway if they choose to lie about it. An outbreak is a consideration which has never yet been watched with them.

I hope that full consideration will be given to the possibilities of such a trip and I am of course ready to discuss the matter and amplify this report in any way that is desired.

SECRET

- 18 -

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I hope that full consideration will be given to the possibilities of such a trip and I am of course ready to discuss the matter and amplify this report in any way that is desired.

SECRET

Abram Hewitt 13,650
x Herman Himmer

(Notes on memorandum from Herschel Johnson in Stockholm to State Department re Abram Hewitt, dated 10 January 1944)

Moller - Director of Swedish Match Monopoly
Swedes built their position around the Himmer group.

Kersten received extra gas ration - six times that of other doctors.

100,000 kronor from Moller to get these fellows off.

not Hitler's doctor.

Himmer honest, small salary, lives on it, had resources outside, violently anti-Russian, not anti-American or anti-British

Discussion of 18.08.82
prepared

1. Documentation prepared
for...
2. ...
3. ...

4. ...
5. ...

6. ...
7. ...
8. ...

9. ...
10. ...
11. ...
12. ...

Schellenberg 3 March 13, 1950
Himmlers
Schellenberg Heinrich
Foreign man
Prison man - Heinrich

in von Prison
Kerstin
Kerstin used prison
by Prison legation

Don't daughter
Mumma stay Winter
not out Germany
Germany

if for any reason
the will
be used
me

Schwendler
Breville

June 1st 1941

My dear Mr. ...

I have ...

Very ...

Sincerely

John ...

...

...

Sheet A 13,632

Oct - Dr. Felix Kersten - physician to Dutch
Royal Order Council - neuro specialist - moved to Berlin -
treated Hitler and Himmler - former nationalist -
1938 Himmler under treatment with K -
1941 - K treated hit in Berlin - by G.S.S.
K claims he saved 7 aviation engineers
project on Hitler's underground

SECRET

Wm. A. 12.6.50
X

ROUTING SHEET

INFORMATION

Originator Director's Office
Date 2/23/44
Addressee _____
Date Rec'd _____

Subject _____

To	Room No.	Date		Initials	Comments Indicate action desired or taken
		Rec'd	Fwd'd		
Mr. Sheparson		<i>FEB 22 1944</i>	<i>FEB 23 1944</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>BY HAND</i>
<i>Maclod</i> Mrs. O'Donnell		<i>2/23</i>	<i>2/23</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>RETURN TO MS</i> <i>BY HAND</i>
<i>Chief</i>		<i>FEB 23 1944</i>	<i>FEB 23 1944</i>	<i>MS</i>	
<i>Mrs O'Donnell</i>					

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

United States

SECRET

Equals British MOST SECRET & SECRET

Hewitt A - 13 650

*✓ H. C. M. L. -
Kerstan*

5 February 1944

TO: Brigadier General W. J. Donovan

Attached is a copy of a communication sent by Minister Henschel Johnson in Stockholm to the State Department concerning Abram Hewitt whom you met yesterday in my office. You may remember that you indicated a desire to talk to Hewitt and you also asked me to furnish you some background information concerning him.

Hewitt first went to Stockholm last summer under an economic warfare cover. The circumstance which is related in the Johnson message was first reported to us by Calvin Hoover when he returned from Stockholm in November. In recent weeks, Johnson has indicated a strong desire that Hewitt should leave Stockholm to return to Washington, but it has taken considerable time to effect his passage this far. He is now under OSS orders to return to Washington directly to make a report on this matter.

I shall be glad to arrange an interview with Hewitt whenever you desire. Please return the attached memo.

Wm. P. Maddox

Wm. P. Maddox
Major, AIR
Chief, SI Branch

Enclosure
W 91

This copy may be kept

*51
no form*

United States

SECRET

Equals British MOST SECRET & SECRET

13682
 January 10, 1944
 97187

W 91 Germany: Himmler is contacting Allies

The Department knows Abram Hewitt and his relations with government service. This is the summary of a memorandum just received from him.

During the first week or so of October a Swedish friend of Hewitt's, a businessman, arranged for him to meet a Dr. Felix Kersten. This doctor was a private physician to the late Dutch Royal Consort and according to report is famed as a nerve specialist throughout Europe. After Holland was invaded, Kersten changed his residence to Berlin where he has lived up till now. He has treated many important German leaders, among them Hitler and Himmler. He is a Finnish national. Mr. Hewitt consulted the doctor on a professional matter and received treatments from him until the first of December when Dr. Kersten went back to Berlin. Hewitt and Kersten spoke to each other in German. This is what Hewitt learned from the doctor.

In 1935 Himmler was under treatment from him. In 1941 the doctor was forced to transfer to Berlin where he treated Himmler once more. Not long after this he contracted to give treatments to 21 members of the Government yearly. Although Dr. Kersten pursued his activity in this way it became apparent, from other things mentioned, that the doctor was concerned mostly with caring for Himmler and his staff at the HQ of the SS.

Dr. Kersten says that it was he who finally saved the seven Swedish engineers, who had been caught working with the Polish Underground and had their sentence changed to life imprisonment. He mediated with Himmler. Alvin Moller, Swedish Match Monopoly head in Germany, persuaded Kersten to make this effort. Presumably Moller offered the doctor 100,000 kroner for the lives of these men. Kersten did not take the money but agreed to do his best. He claims to have talked about the affair with Himmler on several occasions and to have discussed it with Hitler twice. Then the death sentence was commuted. As a reward for this success, Dr. Kersten was given a two month's holiday in Sweden by the Swedish Government.

This is the account which the doctor tells of how he came to Sweden. Hewitt thinks the story should read this way:

The Swedish engineers were condemned to die. The doctor was offered money to intercede for them. He told this to Himmler. Himmler agreed to save the men and instructed the doctor not to take the money. He knew that a reward would be given and he proposed to the doctor that he should agree to stay in Sweden for a while where, being a Finnish national, he would be able to make contacts with Americans. Hewitt does not think that it was by a mere accident that the Swedish businessman arranged for him to meet Dr. Kersten. The Swede was a German contact. He wanted the meeting to take place.

Dr. Kersten talked very freely in the course of this acquaintance and let slip a number of bits of military information which have been passed on to the OSS. Some of these bits have been confirmed.

Himmler since he became Minister of the Interior is a very important man, according to Kersten. Cells of resistance against Hitler are completely destroyed. Individuals are still opposed to the Fuhrer but they have no effective organization. Communications from one general to another and among other higher officers of the Army must pass through the SS or the Gestapo.

Himmler is aware at least that the war cannot be won. At present he is supporting Hitler but Kersten believes that he will not necessarily continue to do so.

The doctor spoke of Denmark where Himmler gave instructions to his men to permit the Jews to go to Sweden without suffering harm.

The doctor says that Himmler hates the Russians fanatically but that he is not really hostile to Americans or to the British. He would like to make an arrangement of some sort with them that would keep Germany from being completely ruined. He is aware that the Allies cannot deal with Hitler; he is prepared to drop Hitler. Hewitt inquired of the doctor whether he thought Himmler's patriotism would allow this, whether he would be willing to keep order for a short time and then leave the picture. Kersten thought that this was a possibility. Hewitt said that everyone in the U.S. and Britain believed that the Allies will win and that Himmler should be prepared to talk about a compromise which could favor the Reich.

If an agreement cannot be made, Kersten thought that what would be done from SS HQ that the following plan will be carried out as soon as military resistance is useless, Himmler will declare all movable property in the occupied territories and in Germany, so as to eliminate completely private property. On another result, Hitler and his group will declare themselves Communists and will try to collaborate with Russia in some way on the rest of this war.

On four different occasions Dr. Kersten urged Hewitt to make a trip to Germany at once where he could talk with Himmler. It was pointed out by Hewitt that he has no official status, that, as a private citizen, he could not speak for the U.S. Government nor was he informed of governmental policies at this moment. Dr. Kersten then proposed that Hewitt should go to Washington to learn something about the general situation. Afterwards he could take passage to Lisbon where arrangements would be made for him to talk with Himmler. Hewitt adds that details have been arranged for him to make this trip to Lisbon, in case it is feasible. Hewitt has given no promise of any sort.

According to Kersten, Prince Wied, ex-Minister from Germany to Sweden, and Von Papen have carried peace proposals from Russia. Von Papen did so last May and Prince Wied was the bearer just after the Battle of Stalingrad. In detail, as Kersten learned at SS HQ, these proposals suggested that the Soviet Union should keep the Baltic provinces and the area in Poland seized in 1939, should extend her territory to an Adriatic port and to Salonika and Istanbul, and should have a free hand in the Balkans.

It was agreed by Kersten that Hewitt might come to Lisbon as late as the fifteenth of February. Since this conversation Hewitt says that he has received a later communication from Germany, indicating that the Germans want him to come at the earliest opportunity if they are anxious over the bombing of Germany.

Hewitt tells us that a Colonel Walter Schellenberg has contacted him since the return of Kersten in December. This Colonel was wounded in Africa. Hewitt told him also that he has no official connection with the U.S. Government. Hewitt stressed the fact that he could not believe the Washington Government would negotiate with Hitler. The Colonel answered that he knew this and that it would not be required. He wanted Hewitt to come to Germany and talk with Hitler on peace possibilities. Hewitt said to him also that this would be pointless as he was not informed on American policy but that he might avail himself of the invitation at a later date, if the invitation is kept open. The Colonel replied that the bombings were devastating Germany so terribly that there is very little time to do anything. Arrangements have been made, according to Hewitt, for him to see the Colonel in Lisbon; from there he would be brought to Hitler in Germany. All of this, Kersten says, had been talked over with Dr. Kersten on a previous occasion. The contact made by Schellenberg is evidence from the SS that Hitler favors Dr. Kersten.

I expressed to Mr. Hewitt my belief that such a proposition as this will come to nothing, and that the Allies would not be willing to negotiate with Hitler. I have also said that this kind of secret act might be full of perils. Hewitt will depart very soon, having arranged for a very short stay. When he reaches Washington, he will elaborate on this with officials. He has hopes, I believe, of talking with Mr. Roosevelt. These contacts between Hewitt and Dr. Kersten were known to Calvin Hoover of OSS when he was in Stockholm a few weeks ago. If these overtures are not entirely futile it would seem that Hitler is making another desperate effort to save himself, cost what it may. These ideas expressed by Kersten come from men who are in despair. On past occasions the Germans have attempted to breed distrust among the Allies, and it is hard to put much faith in the words of a Finnish national who is obviously a member of the Gestapo.

17649

Heller, Frances G.

T/5 Frances G. Heller
Recruited by FESO
Age: 25
High-school education
Born: Czechoslovakia
Home: Sacramento, California

Went through OSS schools A4 and A8.
Departed by sea for 101 February 20, 1944.
Qualified demolitions and small arms man.
Had previously lived in Far East for year.

File

*W/5 Francis G. Haller***SECRET**

18 February 1944

MEMORANDUM

TO: W/5 Francis G. Haller

SUBJECT: Orders

1. You are hereby authorized and directed to proceed to the destination indicated in your military orders, where you will report to the Chief of OSS for that theater of operations. You are, thereafter, to act under the instructions of the Chief of OSS for such theater.

G. EDWARD BUXTON
Acting Director

APPROVED:

J. M. Scribner,
Deputy Director, SSO

William P. Davis, III, Lt. Col., FA,
Deputy Chief, SO

Carl G. Hoffmann, Major, AUS,
Far East Theater Officer

SECRET

Approved Under NSC 68

SECRET

Date: February 7, 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: **Walter M. Hewitt**

SUBJECT: **Orders**

1. You are hereby authorized and directed to proceed to London, England, where you will report to the Strategic Services Officer for the European Theater of Operations. You are, thereafter, to act under the instructions of the Strategic Services Officer for the European Theater.

C. Edward Suxton
Acting Director

APPROVED
Morton Hoefish
Morton Hoefish
Deputy Chief, MO Branch

APPROVED
J. M. Scripper
J. M. Scripper
Deputy Director, SSO

John D. Wilson per NSC
John D. Wilson
Special Agent Officer

SECRET

Handwritten signature

SECRET

Date: February 7, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: David Leon Hertz

SUBJECT: Orders

1. You are hereby authorized and directed to proceed to London, England, where you will report to the Strategic Services Officer for the European Theater of Operations. You are, thereafter, to act under the instructions of the Strategic Services Officer for the European Theater.

G. Edward Austin
Acting Director

APPROVED:

Handwritten signature
Gordon Donvick
Deputy Chief, MD Branch

APPROVED:

Handwritten signature
J. M. Norinck
Deputy Director, SSO

Handwritten signature
John D. Wilson, European Theater Officer.

SECRET

12,321

Herman, Stewart



INTERDENOMINATIONAL
THE AMERICAN CHURCH
IN BERLIN

STEWART W. HERMAN, PASTOR

March 1, 1945

Mr Charles S. Cheston
Office of Strategic Services
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr Cheston:

It was good of you to send me a note of thanks for whatever services I may have been able to render OSS during the 16 months in which I was associated with you. My only regret is that various circumstances have combined to prevent me from doing even more for the war effort.

After two and a half years with the American Embassy in Berlin and these 16 months with OSS, I am now returning to full-time church work with the World Council of Churches and I expect to leave for Switzerland in about two months. I hope to meet again some of the friends whom I came to know during this last year.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Stewart W. Herman

121 State Street
Harrisburg, Pa.

[Handwritten initials]

100-100000
100-100000

27 February 1945

Mr. Stewart W. Herman
121 State Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Herman:

We have learned with regret that you are planning to leave this organization. Before you do so may I express, for the Director and for the agency, our appreciation and gratitude for the excellent help you have given in the performance of your duties as a member of the Office of Strategic Services.

Your work in London and Washington was directly connected with the war effort of this nation and its allies and your knowledge of Germany made your efforts particularly valuable. You can leave us with the satisfaction of feeling that in what you have done for OSS you have materially contributed to the success of our efforts.

Sincerely,

Charles S. Cheston
Acting Director

cc: es

12,321

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

23 February 1945

Mr. Stewart W. Herman
121 State Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Herman:

I have learned with regret that you are planning to leave this organization. Before you do so may I express, for myself and the agency, our appreciation and gratitude for the way in which you have performed your duties as a member of the Office of Strategic Services.

~~As you know, the mission entrusted to OSS has been an integral part of the military activities of the nation. What success we have achieved has been entirely due to the ability of our personnel and to their fine sense of loyalty and devotion to duty. I am proud of the accomplishments of this agency and of the individuals such as yourself who have been associated with it. You can leave us with the satisfaction of feeling that in what you have done for OSS you have materially contributed to the success of our efforts.~~

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. DONOVAN
Maj. Gen., USA
Director

You work in London and Washington was directly connected with the war effort of King's soldiers and the allies and your knowledge of Germany make your efforts particularly valuable.

12, 3, 21

CONFIDENTIAL
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES


WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

25 February 1946

TO: The Director, OSS
FROM: Major Charles J. Eubank
SUBJECT: Stewart Herman Termination Letter

1. Mr. Herman was the last rector of the American Church in Berlin before the declaration of war and returned to this country after the outbreak of hostilities. He was in charge of the SO German Desk in Washington, and early in 1944 was sent to London to head up a similar desk. Under Colonel Haskell he performed this function until his return and resignation. His recent intimate knowledge of Germany was extremely valuable to OSS, and his intelligent efforts toward penetration of the Reich is presently showing results.

2. Mr. Herman expects to go to Geneva as a member of the World Council of Churches, which position he has discussed with IIO. We conclude that IIO thinks that this position will be of value to this organization. It is respectfully requested that you sign the attached letter to Mr. Herman.


CHAR. J. EUBANK
Major, G-2
Operations Officer, ESO

Encl: (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

10A

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

Heraty, Francis J. ALLEN

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB GARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. G. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS	
DL	Day Letter
NT	Overnight Telegram
LC	Deferred Cable
NLT	Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram	

The time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

WAB106 9 TOUR=ATLANTA GA 27 1243P

1943 APR 27 PM 2 11

GENERAL WILLIAM J DONOVAN
OFFICE STRATEGIC SERVICES

LEAVING ATLANTA TODAY EXPECT BE IN WASHINGTON LATE WEDNESDAY
FRANCIS J HERATY

OS
Form 89

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

DATE APRIL 26 1943

TO LT. COL. FRANCIS J. HERATY
FT. BENNING, GEORGIA.

FROM DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

CLEAR TEXT

CODE OR CIPHER

ACKNOWLEDGE

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

DISTRIBUTION

(CONFIRMATION TO ORIGINATOR)

(FOR INFORMATION)

CONFIRMATION COPY

CQ7 24 USGOVT

OUTGOING HEADING

CQ WASHINGTON DC APRIL 26 1943 258PM

UNLESS DESIGNATED OTHERWISE, TRANSMIT THIS DISPATCH AS DEFERRED

TRANSMIT

ARMY GROUND FORCES WASHINGTON ADVISE THAT THEY HAVE TELEPHONED
BIRMINGHAM TO CALL INFANTRY SCHOOL AND ORDER YOUR TRAVEL
IMMEDIATELY. PLEASE WIRE WHEN YOU LEAVE.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM J. DONOVAN.

OPERATOR'S RECORD

INITIALS OF "RELEASING" OFFICER

FORM 10

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

DATE APRIL 26 1943

APR 26 12 01 PM '43

FROM FRANCIS J HERATY

TO DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

ACKNOWLEDGE

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

DEFERRED

DISTRIBUTION

(FOR ACTION)

(FOR INFORMATION)

BRIGADIER WILLIAM J DONOVAN

INCOMING HEADING

MURD V WARD 4 9 TO PORTSMOUTH GA APR 25 1943 1046 AM

RECEIVED

REQUEST FOR TRANSPORTATION WENT FORWARD SATURDAY TO GROUND FORCES.

SENT 1305Z

FILE COPY

Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

05/22/41
WJ

1943 APR 23 14 10 5

MURD V WARD 9 41 NL

FO FTBENNING GA 22

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM J DONOVAN OSS

WAR DEPT WASHINGTON DC

TAKES THREE OR FOUR DAYS FOR ME TO GET PERMISSION FROM
GROUND FORCES FOR PLANE AND ORDERS TO TAKE ME TO SEE YOU IN
WASHINGTON APPLICATION GOES FORTH TODAY FOR PERMISSION AND
TRANSPORTATION PERHAPS YOU CAN ASSIST FROM YOUR END THANKS

LT COL FRANCIS J HERALY .

SENT 1358Z

CIN HERALY

To Charles Chelton

*Can you get
this done*

*Ward sent
p.m.
4/24/41*

FRANCIS J. HERATY

Born 1892

- (a) EDUCATION:
- | | |
|--|-----------|
| Graduated from West Point | 1917 |
| Graduated Co. Officers Course - Infantry School | 1922 |
| " Field Officers Course " | 1928 |
| " Command and General Staff College
(2 year course) | 1930 |
| " Chemical Warfare Course | 1930 |
| " Tank School | 1933 |
| Student - Army War College | 1933-1934 |
- (b) 11th Infantry 5th Division World War A.E.F.
1. Machine Gun Officer and later Operations and Intelligence Officer
May 1917 - Jan. 1919
 2. 29th Infantry - Infantry School Demonstration Troops
Jan. 1920 - Aug. 1921
 3. 18th Infantry
 4. Company "C", U.S. Corps Cadets West Point 1924-1927
 5. 45th Infantry Camp Hay - P.I. 1930-1933
Commander - Camp Hay - 12 months
 6. Camp Commander & Staff Officer - Camp Beauvoir, La.
- (c) Staff Experience:
1. Ass. G-3 for General Fiske - Summer 1922-23-24 Camp Meade
 2. Member War Dept. General Staff
Eligible List
- (d) Instruction Experience:
1. C.O. Third Corps Machine Gun School - Clamcy, France
A.E.F. Jan. 1918-May 1919 with General Fridendall
 2. Instructor Machine Gun Dep. Inf. School - Ft. Doening, Ga.
Aug. 1919 - June 1920
 3. Instructor in Demonstrations at Camp Meade - Summers 1922-3-4
- (e) Citations:
1. Silver Star - gallantry in action
 2. Purple Heart (wounded in action)
 3. Chevalier of the Order of Imperial Dragons of Aman, French
Indo China
- (f) Efficiency Ratings:
- Superior and excellent
- Retired as Major - U.S.A. 1934

FRANCIS J. HERATY, (continued)

DISABILITIES:

Myocarditis, chronic degeneration, mild with persistent auricular fibrillation and mild hypertrophy of the left ventricle.

His health gave way while student at War College as result of overwork.

Major General Fiske wrote General MacArthur in 1934 as follows:

"I believe him to belong, by character and capacity, in the small group of the most highly efficient young officers at the top of the Army. He is distinctly not an ordinary officer but on the contrary one of the best. I am told that his present physical trouble will not necessarily incapacitate him from full duty in the future. It would seem very much to the best interests of the service to delay action. We have entirely too few officers of his energy, intelligence and enthusiasm in his work and profession to let one go without absolute necessity.

He has been Asst. Director of Training for O.C.S. for a period of time. Prior to this was instructor of Senior Inf. R.O.T.C., Dept. of Military Science & Tactics, Penna. State College. He is an outstanding officer.

Brig. Genl. Lewis C. Allen, Commandant,
E.Q. Inf. School,
Ft. Benning, Ga.

Major Heraty retired Sept. 30, 1934.

Recalled May 31, 1940.

CONFIDENTIAL

Lt. Colonel Maddox
Executive Office

8/1/44

This is to inform you that General Donovan has approved your request that Miss Louise Hephurn be transferred to SI, MEDITO, to act as Head of Registry, and Acting Administrative Assistant to the Chief, SI Branch, MEDITO.

F. J. Putzell Jr.,
Lieutenant (J.G.), USNR
Assistant Executive Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

Hepburn, Louise Shaw 2828

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Director, OSS
through Chief, SI Branch
SUBJECT: Registry Head and Administrative Assistant
for SI, MEDITO

28 July 1944

1. It is requested that Miss Louise Hepburn, Head of Registry for SI Branch, ETO, be transferred to SI, MEDITO, to act as Head of Registry, and Acting Administrative Assistant to the Chief, SI Branch, MEDITO.
2. It is further suggested that Miss Hepburn be recalled immediately to Washington for a period of time to be determined to enable her to become thoroughly acquainted with Registry (and Reporting Board) standards and procedures in all SI stations in the Mediterranean. Upon completion of this work she should proceed to SI MEDITO Headquarters. Copies of SI reports and of all correspondence and documents from (or to) all SI MEDITO stations would be catalogued, recorded and filed at these headquarters.
3. Miss Hepburn's work at SI, ETO, has been so organized that her duties could be readily and satisfactorily transferred to her present assistant, Mrs. Anita Mc Clain. It is believed that Miss Hepburn would like to be relieved of her London assignment for reasons of health.

Fully approved.

W. P. Maddox
27 - July 1944

W. P. Maddox
Wm. P. Maddox
Lt. Col., AUS
Chief-designate, SI, MEDITO

CO

Hepburn Louise S. 8466
~~London~~
X London

Date: ~~8-16-43~~

To: General Donovan

Re: Louise Hepburn

As a result of a letter written by the Secretariat, OPD understood that Miss Louise Hepburn had returned here from London for a vacation. OPD registered a protest with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Captain Loftin has communicated with OSS in this regard.

H. Edward Hutton
Assistant Director

Hepburn, Louise 82166
L. M. H.

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

VMM/IRD

11 July 1943

AG 300.4

SECRET
By Authority of
G.O. E.T.O. H.Q.
Initials: *[Signature]*
Date 11 July 43

SUBJECT: Orders.

TO: Major Louise H. Hepburn, Division, GPO, #7023A

1. You are hereby authorized to proceed by first available train or to
leave from London, England to Washington, D. C. You will report upon arrival
thereat to the Director, Office of Strategic Services for temporary duty.
Upon completion of this temporary duty, you will return to your proper station.

2. Travel will be performed by military, naval or commercial aircraft,
hulligant vessel, or aircraft, government vessel, commercial steamship and
air rail. If travel is performed by air, a baggage allowance of 65 lbs. is
authorized.

3. Substantive travel expenses incurred in connection with the travel
will be made to the War Department by the Office of Strategic Services.
The Finance Office will be advised by the Office of Strategic Services
that a copy of this order showing the date of departure and the date of
arrival, together with a letter of introduction, a letter of transmittal to
the Adjutant General's Office, and a letter of introduction, stating that the
authorized copy was furnished for the purpose of recording, shall be made
to the Office of Travel Services.

4. ...
5. Attention is directed to Section 19, Chapter No. 11, War Dept.
regarding the procedure in the War Department for the purpose of
... of the ...

SECRET
Louise H. Hepburn
...
...
...
...
...
...
...

SECRET

Hepburn 8966
R. Tomlinson

September 24, 1948

The Honorable
C. Howland Shaw
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Shaw:

The Office of Strategic Services is dispatching Miss Louise S. Hepburn to London, England to perform certain duties in connection with the work of this office in London.

It will be greatly appreciated if you will arrange for all travel expense accounts and other authorized claims for expenditures presented by her to be honored by the American Embassy in London. It is requested that \$144.82 per month of Miss Hepburn's salary of \$1000.00 per annum be paid directly to her through the American Embassy in London. The balance of Miss Hepburn's salary will be paid by this office in Washington. Retirement deductions will be made from that portion of her salary which is to be paid by this office. This salary arrangement should take effect on October 1, 1948, in order that Miss Hepburn will receive her first payment of salary through the Embassy on October 15, for the period October 1 through 15.

Miss Hepburn will be entitled to claim per diem in accordance with the following schedule of rates:

\$6.00 per day while traveling within the continental limits of the United States.

\$7.00 per day while traveling outside the continental limits of the United States and for sixty days after arrival in London, England.

\$3.00 per day while on shipboard, where the cost of transportation includes meals.

Mr. Shaw

- 2 -

September 24, 1942

\$4.00 per day beginning sixty days after arrival in London, England (except that the \$7.00 rate shall apply when Miss Hopton is required to travel outside the city limits of London).

The Office of Strategic Services will reimburse the Department of State in accordance with Section 7-45 of the Foreign Service Regulations of your Department for all expenditures made on behalf of Miss Hopton in accordance with the foregoing.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Donovan

JASTacy:knd

cc: Col. Donovan ✓
Mr. Barnes
Mr. Fisher Howe
Fiscal Office
Mails & Files