

dienstlich zu arbeiten und seiner vorgesetzten britischen Behörde über das Ergebnis seiner Nachrichtentätigkeit zu berichten. Angeblich habe die britische Behörde dem Vorschlag zugestimmt. GOTTLIEB ist in Italien mit einem namhaften Atomwissenschaftler in Verbindung getreten. Er soll diesen haben wissen lassen, dass er seinen Auftrag unter Druck ausführe und dass er für seine sowjetischen Auftraggeber Spielmaterial erwarte. Als später der Skandal um den Atom-Spionagefall FUCHS die Weltöffentlichkeit beschäftigte und der Name GOTTLIEBs auch in diesem Zusammenhang genannt wurde, wurde GOTTLIEB nach LONDON zitiert und ihm dort bedeutet, dass eine Fortsetzung des Doppelspiels nicht mehr möglich sei. Er reiste nach dieser Besprechung wieder nach ROM zurück und besuchte zwischendurch auch seine Freunde in Kärnten. Kurze Zeit darauf beging er in ROM durch Aufschneiden seiner Pulsadern Selbstmord.

Nach Ansicht der mit GOTTLIEB befreundet gewesenen, bereits genannten Gräfin GOESS war GOTTLIEB niemals seiner ganzen Erziehung und Veranlagung nach pro-kommunistisch eingestellt. Dass er sich mit den Sowjets zu dem bereits erwähnten Doppelspiel eingelassen hat, kann aus seiner abenteuerlichen und überspannten Veranlagung erklärt werden. Es ist anzunehmen, dass er im Zuge dieses Doppelspiels sich zu weit mit der gegnerischen Seite eingelassen hat und befürchten musste, dass im Zuge der Untersuchung des FUCHS-Skandals sein Name schwer kompromittiert werden würde. Seine synische, vollkommen sreligiöse Einstellung habe ihn dann bewogen, dem durch Selbstmord auszuweichen.

(Siehe Vorbericht "Offiziere der britischen Besatzungsmacht in Österreich als Sowjetagenten" vom 8.6.1950 - P/01503 - G.)

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TRANSLATION

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AUSTRIA

6 July, 1950 (P/01736)

SUBJECT: Major GOTTLIB, Agent of the FSS in Carinthia

Date of Information, End of June, 1950

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Major GOTTLIB is not of southeast German origin, as was stated in a verbal report previously, but comes from a rich Jewish family of VIENNA. In the year 1938 he left Austria and went to England. There he joined an elite British regiment at the beginning of the war and distinguished himself as an especially brave soldier during the British campaign in North Africa and Italy. In the course of military events he arrived in Carinthia at the war's end, and was transferred to the FSS at the end of hostilities because of his knowledge of the area. In Carinthia and the rest of the British Zone of Occupation he visited in the best houses and was welcome everywhere. He led an extravagant and luxurious life. At the same time he got considerable income by going into the "Hells Rayer" Company in Rome. Countess Dorothea GIBBS, nee KOTTULINSKY, asserts that GOTTLIB, on account of his high mode of living and homosexual inclinations, was doomed to get into trouble in the field of secret-service work, and was bound to go into double-dealing. According to his own statement he himself made the suggestion to his superior in LONDON that he accept a Russian proposal that he do intelligence work for them in Italy,

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he proposed that he should then report the result of this activity to his British superiors. The British authorities allegedly agreed to this suggestion. GOTTLIEB came into contact in Italy with a well-known atomic scientist. He is said to have told this man that he was carrying on his work under pressure and that he desired deception material to give to the Soviets who gave him his assignments. When world-wide publicity later was given to the scandal concerning the FUCMS atomic espionage case and GOTTLIEB's name also was mentioned in this connection, GOTTLIEB was summoned to LONDON and there he was given to understand that it was no longer possible for him to continue in the role of a double agent. After this conversation he went back to Rome and from time to time also visited his friends in Carinthia. A short time later he committed suicide in Rome by slashing his wrists.

In the opinion of GOTTLIEB's friend Countess GOESS, mentioned above, GOTTLIEB, in accordance with his whole nature and training, never did line up on the pro-Communist side. The fact that he entered into the abovementioned doubling with the Soviets can be explained on the basis of his adventurous and eccentric nature. It is to be assumed that, in the course of his double-agent adventure, he got in too deeply with the opposing side and consequently was afraid that his name would be heavily compromised as the investigation of the FUCMS scandal went along. His cynical, completely irreligious attitude then persuaded him to avoid this by suicide.

(See previous report, "Officers of the British Occupation Force in Austria as Soviet agents", 8 June, 1950 - P/01583 - C)

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