



AD — A girl holds a poster in Mainz, Germany, announcing the memoirs of Gen. Reinhard Gehlen, former head of the West German in-

telligence service. On the book's cover is the latest picture, taken in February, of the seldom-photographed Gehlen. —AP Photo

'Many Sweets' in Gehlen Memoirs

'This Book Will Change the Writing of History'

MAINZ, Germany (UPI) — The memoirs of West Germany's retired spymaster will "change the writing of history," publisher Volker Hansen predicted Monday.

Hansen said the claim that Adolf Hitler's top lieutenant, Martin Bormann, actually was a Russian agent "is only one of the many sweets" in the book by Gen. Reinhard Gehlen. Hansen said Hase and Kochler, the small, 182-year-old

publishing house in Mainz of which he is director, planned to publish the book at the end of this month.

Until his retirement about three years ago, Gehlen was head of the West German intelligence service. He has never given an interview, or previously written for publication.

Gehlen first went into business for the United States after the Nazi collapse, using as a nucleus a team he put together

during the war when he was the German army's chief of intelligence on the Russian front.

Hansen said the book will be titled, *Der Dienst* (The Service).

"It has a double meaning," Hansen said. "First, it indicates long years of service for the government, and second it was the nickname for the federal intelligence service which Gehlen directed."

"This book will change the writing of history," Hansen said. "Americans who have read it already are making that claim."

One of the pictures in the 500-page book will be the first published portrait of Gehlen since the end of World War II, Hansen said.

"It was taken by a member of the family in front of his house in Bavaria," the publisher said.

"I have known Gehlen for years," Hansen said. "He and my father got to know each other during the war, when my father worked for Adm. Wilhelm Canaris, head of the wartime counterespionage service."

Hansen said his publishing house produces about 60 titles a year, on political science, history, legal questions, computers, biographies and memoirs.

A larger publishing house

could not have maintained the security essential in producing such a bombshell book as Gehlen's," Hansen said. "I believe that is why he chose to let us have it."

Meanwhile, in Vienna, Simon Wiesenthal, head of the Jewish Documentation Center, rejected the reports that Bormann was a Soviet spy as "very unlikely."

Wiesenthal, in a first commentary to the Gehlen memoirs, said, "All logical reasons contradicted such an assumption."

Wiesenthal, whose organization concentrates in tracking down war criminals, said the Soviet Union, on purely political grounds, would never have kept Bormann's whereabouts secret, if he really were in the Soviet Union. "This would have been such an immense risk for them."

In Frankfurt, West German legal authorities continue their search for Bormann despite the claim by Gehlen.

A spokesman for the Frankfurt prosecution said Monday that Bormann is still being sought "right around the globe, and dead or alive."

He added that Gehlen's disclosure took the prosecution by surprise as it did the public.

No Indication

The spokesman said the prosecution will pursue Gehlen's claim and will probably have the former Wehrmacht officer testify. He added that, up to now, the prosecution had no indication in the direction of Gehlen's claim.

The spokesman said he considers Gehlen's statement as unlikely, because he could think of no reason why the West German intelligence service should have withheld its knowledge, since Bormann was sentenced to death in absentia in the Nuernberg war crimes trials shortly after World War II.

Since then, the spokesman said, reports reached the prosecution time and again that Bormann was hiding in a South American country.

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