

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS U.S.D.I.C.
UNITED STATES FORCES IN AUSTRIA
APO 777, U.S. Army

RETAIN OR DESTROY

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION REPORT

Prisoner: MODER-KAYSER, Josef
Untersturmfuehrer
Allgemeine SS

Case No.: S036

Ref. No.: S036/USDIC/PC11

Date : 2 November 1945

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PRELIMINARY INFORMATION REPORT

I. PRISONER: DESCRIPTION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

~~Josef MODER-KAYSER~~ was born in Vienna, Austria on 31 December 1910 to Josef KAYSER, now age 50, and Maria nee HIMMELBAUER, now age 56. Prisoner has one sister, Maria MAYERHOFF, 32. He is married to Hanna nee KRAJNEK, 23, whose present address is Boeckstein near Badgastein in Austria. They have one child, Heiderun, ten months of age. His home address is Reinerlgasse No. 20, Wien IV, Austria. MODER-KAYSER claims Austrian nationality and professes to be "Gottglaubig".

Subject enjoyed a fairly extensive education. He went to Volksschule for four years, to Unterrealschule for another four years and then went to a Handelsakademie (Trade College) for five years. In civilian life he was a soda-water manufacturer.

The prisoner is six feet tall, weighs 162 pounds, has an oval face, brown hair, and green eyes. The only noticeable peculiarities are a tattoo mark on the inner side of the left arm and a mole on his chin.

II. BRIEF PARTY OR SERVICE HISTORY.

Shortly after the Anschluss in 1938 MODER-KAYSER joined the NSDAP. At the same time he became a Unterscharfuhrer (Corporal) in the Allgemeine SS and also a member of various affiliated organizations of the NSDAP, such as the Deutsche Arbeitsfront and the NSV (National Socialist Public Welfare Organization). In December of 1938 MODER-KAYSER simultaneously put in applications for employment with Industrie and Handelskammer, Kripo (Criminal Police) and Sicherheitsdienst, with the intention of taking the first offering. On 1 February 1939 he was summoned into SD abschnitt Wien as a bookkeeper at a wage of 95 Reichsmarks per month. When Oberabschnitt Donau was dissolved in 1941, part of the files and staff were sent to Unterabschnitt Wien. This same year MODER-KAYSER advanced to the position of registrar in Abt I, RSHA, with an increase in wage of 75 Reichsmarks per month and 16 men under his supervision. He received a promotion to Hauptscharfuhrer (M/Sgt) in 1942.

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In April of 1943 Subject was sent to SS Fuehrerschule in Prague, and on 16 June of the same year entered into active service with the SS Flak Regiment in Munich, in charge of personnel, finance and supply. Still a member of the Siederheitsdienst he was promoted to Untersturmfuehrer (Second Lieutenant). On 13 March 1944 ~~MODER-KAYSER~~ left Flak for the RSHA in Berlin where in turn he was told to report to Vienna. Upon his arrival in Vienna he discovered that his orders were not definitely established, and consequently remained idle for three months. Finally he was ordered to report to RSHA VI S in Berlin where he again remained at leisure for a month. In September 1944 ~~MODER-KAYSER~~ was sent as personnel chief to SS Jagdverbaende school VI S at Steiermark and remained there until the end of the war. At school he studied engineering and demolition, instructing classes in the latter subject. When the school closed in April of 1945 he fled to Boeckstein/Badgastein, Austria.

III. PERSONALITIES ASSOCIATED WITH.

The following are some of the personalities that ~~MODER-KAYSER~~ associated with and were all, with the exception of ~~BRAHMFELD~~, connected with the SS Jagdverbaende school at Steiermark:

Hauptsturmfuehrer (Captain) ~~BRAHMFELD~~ of Amt IV Berlin, was deputy to Otto SKOPZENY, as Obersturmbannfuehrer (Lieutenant Colonel) in Jagdverbaende Headquarters. It was ~~BRAHMFELD~~'s duty to disseminate orders set forth by Jagdverbaende Headquarters to the various schools established in Germany and Austria.

Sturmbannfuehrer (Major) Theodor ~~ZINKE~~ commanding officer of SS Jagdverbaende school at Steiermark. (See Report reference number S02/USDIC/PC11).

Obersturmfuehrer (First Lieutenant) STEINMETZ, in charge of demolitions instructions.

Unterscharfuehrer (Corporal) SCHULITZE, instructor in demolitions.

Oberscharfuehrer (Staff Sergeant) ISRAEL, instructor in demolitions.

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Unterscharfuehrer SCHMIDL, instructor in gunnery.

Hauptscharfuehrer (Sergeant-Major) Tom KRAFFT,
instructor in gunnery.

Hauptscharfuehrer Ludwig SCHMIDT, assistant gunnery
instructor

Oberscharfuehrer CZERNOVITZ, instructor in judo.

Unterscharfuehrer ENGEIS, cavalry instructor.

Hauptscharfuehrer LAUER, in charge of clothing and
supply.

Oberscharfuehrer HISSING, message center instructor.

Oberscharfuehrer Van der BOON, wireless telegraph
instructor.

IV. TIME, PLACE, SPECIAL REASONS, AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF ARREST.

As a member of the SS, SD and SIFQ, prisoner was arrested by the Badgastein Sub-Section of the 430th CIC Detachment, Salzburg Section, at Boeckstein near Badgastein, Austria on 3 August 1945. He was apprehended under the automatic arrest category as per AFHQ Security (Austria) Directive No. 6 "Arrestible Categories in Austria," dated 24 May 1945.

V. INTENDED SCOPE OF INTERROGATION.

The scope of interrogation will cover the activities of SS Jagdverbaende school and Sicherheitsdienst.

The reliability of the information offered by MCDER-KAYSER is rated as "fairly good". Although cooperative, his memory is not too good in respect to dates and specific incidents.

VI. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.

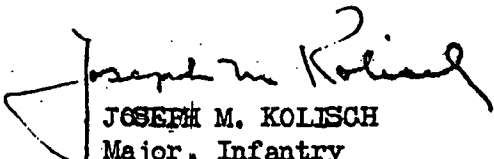
All agencies who have requests for further information beyond that revealed under the above mentioned scope of interrogation should notify this Headquarters.

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All agencies who have any information on this prisoner, his activities, and associates, above and beyond the material noted in this preliminary report, are requested to forward same to this Headquarters with the least practicable delay.

VII. DISPOSITION.

Subject will be detained at this Headquarters pending detailed interrogation.


JOSEPH M. KOLISCH
Major, Infantry
Commanding

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