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HEADQUARTERS INTELLIGENCE CENTER
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APO 777 U.S. ARMY

RETAIN OR DESTROY

FIRST DETAILED INTERROGATION REPORT

Source : MOMM, Eberhart Ernst
Position : Major in the Luftwaffe;
Export Businessman
Case No. : S023
Date : 15 December 1945
Copy No. : 91

This report contains information on the various German military and political organizations in Turkey, their activities, and personalities connected therewith.

Rolf Jacoby
Capt. Inf.
for JOSEPH M. KOLISCH
Major, Infantry
Commanding

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S E C R E T

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S E C R E T

INDEX TO CONTENTS

	Page
I. SOURCE	1
A. Reference	1
B. Activities in Turkey as a Member of the German Intelligence	1
C. Conclusion	1
II. NOTES ON THE GERMAN ORGANIZATIONS IN TURKEY	2
A. German Embassy	2
B. The Abwehr	2
C. The Sicherheitsdienst	3
D. The NSDAP in Turkey	3
III. THE AFFAIR "VERMEHREN"	4
IV. PERSONALITIES	7
A. German Diplomatic Service ..	7
B. Abwehr	11
C. Miscellaneous	12
D. Dr. Paul LEVERKUEHN	16

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

I. SOURCE.

A. Reference.

For description and vital statistics of MOMM, Eberhart Ernst, see Preliminary Information Report, Reference Number S023/USDIC/PE2, this Headquarters, dated 12 October 1945.

B. Activities in Turkey as a member of the German Intelligence.

Eberhart Ernst MOMM went to Turkey in November 1940 as an authorized buyer of mohair, a special goatwool exported only from Turkey. Under the German-Turkish trade agreement there was a German buyer in Turkey for each special item, and only this person was authorized to contract for that item. MOMM was a buyer working not only for his particular firm, Rabbow and Co., but also for all other German concerns interested in the purchase of mohair. To perform his work as a buyer Subject received a "Wirtschaftsurlaub" (economic leave) from the army in October 1940. During his tenure in Turkey he also arranged special compensation trades apart from the trade agreement between Turkish firms and his own firm of Rabbow and Co. In his work he had many dealings with the German Embassy, especially with the economic section (see Section II, par. 1 and Section IV, par. 1 below).

In June 1941 he met Captain LEVERKUEHN, Chief of the Abwehr Section Near East, and the two became good friends. Soon afterward he began to aid LEVERKUEHN in his work of writing special situation and public opinion reports. MOMM assisted by discussing the topics and by bringing in facts and gossip he picked up from his business and social connections. In July 1942, when MOMM'S leave from the Army expired, LEVERKUEHN requested his transfer to the Abwehr. The request went through, and, in addition, the Abwehr gave MOMM leave to continue his work of a commercial nature and remain on special duty with LEVERKUEHN. This change in status did not alter much of MOMM'S work with the Abwehr. Consequently, he did liaison work with the Embassy and represented LEVERKUEHN at many social functions. His main job continued as advisor to LEVERKUEHN. After the desertion of VERMEHREN and his group (see Section III below) the RSHA took charge of the Abwehr Stelle Near East. Subsequently, MOMM was recalled in June 1944 and reactivated as a Major in the air force (anti-aircraft).

C. Conclusion

Eberhart Ernst MOMM proved, after some coaxing, to be a willing subject for interrogation. He is an intelligent person and feels

S E C R E T

that now, since the war is over, no duty binds him from revealing his knowledge of the German Intelligence setup.

II. NOTES ON THE GERMAN ORGANIZATIONS IN TURKEY

A. German Embassy

Because it was imperative from the German point of view to keep Turkey out of the war, the Embassy in Turkey was considered one of the most important in the German war effort. It was used as a medium of obtaining raw materials from Turkey and as a clearing house for information obtained in the Near East. To accomplish these ends a top-notch staff was assembled, which according to Source, worked in utmost harmony with von PAPPEN, the real head of the Embassy in all respects.

As the war moved nearer to Turkey, the situation of the German mission there became increasingly more difficult. The conditions were furthermore complicated in the Mediterranean area by such incidents as Italy's entry into the war, Italy's war with Greece, the German occupation of Bulgaria, and Germany's war with Greece. However, the fact that both Turkey and Germany were hostile toward the Soviet Union was a great factor in determining Turkey's neutrality. Turkey agreed to remain neutral as long as the Russians would not penetrate the Rumanian area. However, when the Russians pushed the Nazis out of Rumania, Turkey severed diplomatic relations with Germany.

All Embassy sections had been in Ankara, with the exception of the Naval Attache and the assistant Press Attache, who had offices in Istanbul. In addition to the Embassy in Ankara, Germany had had a General Consulate in Istanbul and Consulates in Adana, Alexandretta, Smyrna, and Trapezunt. For information on persons connected with the German diplomatic service see Section IV, par. 1 below.

B. The Abwehr

Prior to the summer of 1941 no Abwehr organization existed in Turkey. All work in Turkey and in the Near East was performed by agents out of other Abwehr stations. In the summer of 1941 the *Kriegsorganisation Naher Osten* (KONO) was formed. The first officer in charge was a lieutenant colonel whose name Source cannot recall. He was replaced in the Spring of 1942 by LEVERKUEHN. The function of this organization was not to work in Turkey itself but to operate from Turkey to the Near East. Source is not sure how the unit worked, but he does know the four main sources that comprised a network of information.

S E C R E T

The first source was sleeping car porters on the Istanbul-Bagdad rail line, who proved very reliable, especially in identifying units in British territory. These people would report troop movements, unit markings, and insignia, and ship movements in the harbor of Basra. Another method of securing information was the use of Arab line crossers, whose main job was reporting on the enemy's order of battle. Paula KOCH of Adana was in charge of sending out this type of agent.

A third source were the Syrian Nationalists, and a fourth the Aser'eid'yonders, who were tied racially with the Turks and lived in North Persia, the Caucasus, and the area along the Caspian Lake. These latter people were recognized by the Turks as equals, and any of them coming into Turkey would immediately become Turkish citizens. Through them, and with passive and active assistance by the Turkish intelligence, information was obtained on Russian troops and their movements. At the same time the Turkish intelligence and the Abwehr employed their operatives interchangeably in assigning additional missions for more Russian information. Although the Turks assisted the Germans in regard to espionage against Soviet Russia, they were strictly neutral in matters concerning the Western Powers. It might be interesting to mention that KONO was under Fremde Heere West.

C. The Sicherheitsdienst:

The Sicherheitsdienst (SD) in Turkey was set up in the Winter of 1940 and operated completely from within the diplomatic service. Its Headquarters were at Ankara where its chief, (Hauptsturmfuehrer) *MOIZISCH, was listed officially as assistant economic councillor. A sub station operated within General-Consulate, Istanbul.

According to this Source, the SD in Turkey was a very inefficient organization, using large sums of money and accomplishing very little; in fact, it obtained a great deal of misleading information. Source attributes this inefficiency to the lack of experienced personnel, non-cooperation with the Turks and the general superficial and overly secret cloak under which they conducted their operations. About persons connected with the SD see Section IV, par. 3, below.

D. The NSDAP in Turkey.

According to Source, the Auslandsorganisation der NSDAP (the Nazi Party in Turkey) was a rather small affair, with comparatively little influence and few members. Its insignificance was not attributable to the fact that the Germans in Turkey were all anti-Nazi. Instead,

S E C R E T

the Party had no function as a controlling group because economic and military ties held together the German element.

The Landesgruppenleiter at the time Source was in Turkey was also the Ortsgruppenleiter of both Ankara and Istanbul. He was a Party official sent from Germany. All other Party functions were performed by members of the German colony in addition to their regular vocations. Prior to Subject's arrival, a Landesgruppenleiter was appointed for work at the Embassy, but this man was sent home because of certain irregularities.

III. THE AFFAIR "VERMEHREN"

The "VERMEHREN" incident was an important step in the development of the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (RSHA) and the concluding measure in the collapse of the entire Abwehr organization. It revealed the feud between Admiral CANARIS and HIMMLER and resulted in the taking over of the Abwehr by the RSHA.

^{*}
Dr. Erich VERMEHREN was born in 1919, in a family of high intellectual standing. His father was a lawyer in Hamburg, and his mother, a journalist, was at one time foreign correspondent for the newspaper, "Das Reich", in Lisbon, Portugal. The elder VERMEHREN was an old friend of LEVERKUEHN. The younger VERMEHREN, well-educated and an excellent lawyer, was married to Graefin Elisabeth von PLETTENBERG, six years his senior. She was a frail, sickly woman, of high intellect, and burning ambition. The members of her family were Catholic activists, and she converted her husband to the same faith.

In the Fall of 1942 LEVERKUEHN was in need of a lawyer, requested and obtained the services of the son of his old friend, then Gefreiter (Pfc) Erich VERMEHREN, who arrived in Turkey in December 1942. His main job was to work on a case involving international law in the attempt to clear the titles to some French Danube ships which had left Rumania before the German occupation and were interned by the Turks. In addition, VERMEHREN worked on cases dealing with Egypt.

Despite the order forbidding Abwehr personnel to have their wives with them VERMEHREN submitted an application in the summer of 1943 to obtain permission for his wife to join him in Turkey. LEVERKUEHN forwarded this application to Berlin, where it was disapproved. About this time a friend of VERMEHREN, von TROTT ZU SOLZ, an official of the German foreign office, was visiting him in Turkey. Von TROTT ZU SOLZ was later involved in the plot against Hitler's life on 20 July 1944 and consequently executed.

S E C R E T

In November 1943 VERMEHREN went on leave to Germany. Immediately upon arrival he again submitted an application to the Abwehr headquarters to take his wife to Turkey and was once more refused. Through the family's connection in the German foreign office, however, he was able to get his wife a passport and visa to enter Turkey. This was accomplished by securing for Mrs. VERMEHREN the diplomatic mission of contacting the papal representative in Turkey. Permission was granted by Marshal von BIEBERSTEIN, a high official in the German foreign office.

When the couple arrived in Sofia in December 1943, Erich VERMEHREN called his office in Istanbul. He spoke to KOBLENSKY, the office manager, and stated that he was coming with his wife. LEVERKUEHN, who had orders that no wives would accompany any of his men, had her detained at the border by the SD. Thus, while VERMEHREN came to Istanbul, his wife had to return to Sofia. LEVERKUEHN was very upset by VERMEHREN's procedure, which he felt was a breach of trust.

On Christmas Day 1943 Mrs. VERMEHREN suddenly arrived in Istanbul via air, having shown her foreign office papers in Sofia and having thereby obtained an air priority. Because of the incident, the situation became tense. Reports were made to Abwehr Headquarters, the Embassy, and the Consulate and resulted in an order to the effect that Mrs. VERMEHREN could do anything with regards to her mission without having to secure the permission of LEVERKUEHN.

In the meantime Mrs. VERMEHREN became sick, and her husband visited Source, seeking advice. MOMM, at one time friendly with VERMEHREN, was no longer on good terms with him because of the latter's friends, whom MOMM regarded as being of doubtful social and political standing. Nevertheless, VERMEHREN sought Source's aid. MOMM told him to send his wife home immediately and to admit that he had done the wrong thing in the first place by bringing her to Turkey. VERMEHREN replied that he wanted to be with his wife, and she in a like manner wanted to remain with him. The two parted without a settlement of the issue.

The situation became even more difficult when the couple visited the papal representative, Monsignore RONCOLLI, without permission of LEVERKUEHN. On Thursday, 21 January 1944, VERMEHREN reported to his office that he was ill and would not return on Monday, also that he was moving to a new address in Istanbul. When he did not appear at his office on Monday, a messenger was sent to the new address, but the place could not be found. A person dispatched to his old apartment discovered that the couple had left with all their baggage

S E C R E T

after doing an unusual amount of typing in their rooms. The new address given by VERMEHREN did not exist.

According to Source, a report arrived on 27 January 1944 stating that VERMEHREN and his wife had deserted to the Allies. The news was given to MOMM by KOBLENSKY. Source believes that LUDWIG, counter-espionage agent of the Abwehr in Turkey, was informed of the desertion through the Turkish police. LEVERKUEHN reported the desertion to Berlin by cable. In this cable he stated that he suspected that other people, friends of VERMEHREN, would also desert. He especially suspected Wilhelm HAMBURGER, a friend of VERMEHREN and V-man on the Abwehr, and an Austrian couple who were journalists and connected with Abwehr III in Berlin. It was rumored that these people were in contact with the Austrian resistance movement.

Lt. Col. FREUND of Abwehr III in Berlin came to Turkey to investigate the case, but by the time he arrived HAMBURGER and the journalist couple had already deserted. He then ordered the Turkish border closed to German nationals in order to close this escape route. FREUND stayed about two weeks, working in close contact with LUDWIG, the local counter-espionage man. LUDWIG told Source that he had heard a report that VERMEHREN was being interrogated by the British and that he was revealing all the information that he possessed. In addition, VERMEHREN is said to have stated that MOMM at one time worked on economics reports and was in charge of radio training for agents. This MOMM definitely asserts is false.

In the meantime a young girl, the daughter of a German diplomat in Sofia, who for a short time worked as a secretary to the SD chief MOIZISCH, also deserted to the British. At this time orders from Berlin stated that Admiral von der MARVITZ had been made acting commander of the Abwehr in Turkey. LEVERKUEHN, MOMM, KOBLENSKY, SCHENKER-ANGERER, and ROSNER (See Section IV, Par. 5) were recalled. General RODE had to report to Berlin for "reorientation", but later he returned to his job of Military Attache in the German Embassy in Ankara. After long interrogation, LEVERKUEHN, because of his responsibility in the affair, and SCHENKER-ANGERER, because of suspicion that he belonged to the Austrian Resistance Movement, were forcibly evicted from the service. KOBLENSKY was transferred to Denmark, and MOMM returned to active duty with the air force. ROSNER's fate is not known to Source.

In the wake of the affair Admiral CANARIS' resignation paved the way for the RSHA to take over the entire Abwehr organization.

S E C R E T

IV. PERSONALITIES

A. German Diplomatic Service

ALLART

Gesandtschaftsrat (counsellor), age about thirty, tall and stocky, broad face, light hair; very intelligent, not socially inclined. He is divorced and lives in Ankara with his mother and child. He has been in Turkey since 1942 and before that served in Copenhagen and Teheran. Professional diplomat and in the Embassy in Turkey worked under Dr. KROLLON, assisting in political items. NSDAP member, but indifferent towards its activities.

BIBRACH

Lieutenant Colonel, member of the General Staff, age about thirty, tall and slim, military appearance, dark hair. Professional Officer, and married. Since 1944 he was attached to the Military Attache in Ankara as a member of the General Staff.

HAENSEL, August

Captain in the Luftwaffe, age about forty tall, robust, fair hair; well-liked by his superior officers and colleagues for his straightforward character and unpretentiousness. Years ago he served in China with the Chinese army as an instructor. Later he promoted the Berlin-Athens-Bagdad-Teheran-Kabul airline. As a civilian he was manager of the Lufthansa in Teheran, and since the latter part of 1939 he was stationed in Ankara as adjutant at the office of the Air Attache. No connections with the NSDAP.

HENSCHEL, Reinhard

Legation secretary, age about thirty, tall, very neat in appearance, aristocratic, dark hair; very tactful and reserved. He was in Ankara since 1944 and cared for the Protocol. Originates of the HENSCHEL family, owners of the well-known Henschel Works at Kassel, Germany. He is very wealthy and married to Countess WURMBRAND of Vienna. His wife had to leave Turkey in the Spring of 1944 by order of the SD because of reported personal contact with a neutral diplomat, which was

S E C R E T

prohibited. As a result, HENSCHEL had to give up his post in Ankara and left the foreign office. Negative attitude toward the Party.

JENKE, Albert

Gesandter I. Klasse (Minister), age fifty-two tall, slim, neat appearance; sociable disposition. He is married to Inge RIBBENTROP, sister of the former German Foreign Minister, and his career and position were due to his close relations with the Foreign Minister. He kept close contact with the Party, and in 1939 he was appointed Economic Councillor of the German Embassy in Ankara, first with the rank of Consul General and six months later as Gesandter I. Klasse (Minister); He speaks Turkish and has a good knowledge of Turkey.

KETTEMBELL

Lieutenant General, age about fifty, tall, sharp face, grey hair, very neat in appearance. He served in World War I as a professional soldier in the air force. In 1934 he rejoined the air force and served in Ankara as Air Attache. Subject had no connection with the Party.

KOMISCHKE

Rank not known, age about thirty, tall and slim, light hair, broad face, wears glasses, not very sociable. A Party member, not a professional diplomat, served in the Foreign Office only during war time, working under SELLER on press matters.

* KROLL, Dr

Gesandter I. Klasse (Minister), age about fifty, short stature, fair hair, sharp-cut face; very energetic, ambitious, and a hard worker, speaks in an abrupt manner, very strict with subalterns. He is married and is a professional diplomat but not a Party member. He has been at the Embassy in Ankara since 1937 as "I. Botschaftsrat and Geschaefststrae-ger" (First Councillor and Charge d'Affaires), undoubtedly because of his highly efficient work and broad knowledge of all service matters. In 1943 he was transferred from Ankara to Barcelona as Consul General.

- 8 -

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

MARWITZ, von der

Vice Admiral, age about fifty, tall and slim, white hair, blue eyes; military appearance, distinguished, leads high social life. He is highly skeptical of Party members and their doctrines; is not a Party member. A professional naval officer, Naval Attache at the German Embassy in Ankara since 1939, previously Naval Attache in Paris. In World War I he was a commander of a mine-detecting flotilla, for which he was granted high distinctions. He held the full confidence of his superiors and was on personal and friendly terms with the Ambassador.

RENSONET

Commercial Attache, age about fifty, tall and heavy-set, hair almost white; very correct and modest in conduct, rather prefers to stay in the background, industrious, and has a wide range of knowledge; is reliable and appreciative. He is married, speaks Turkish, lived in Istanbul prior to World War I. He worked in the Embassy for many years, and since 1943 he was an official in the Foreign Office. He was a Party member without conviction.

RODE

Lieutenant General, age about fifty, medium build, grey hair, wears glasses. Very intelligent, highly educated, excellent family background, father of five children, professional infantry officer; has reputation as a military writer. He was known as an expert on Turkish and Near East Subjects. He served as an infantry officer in the Turkish Army during the 1912 Balkan War and also during World War I. Subject has excellent connections and the confidence of the Turkish General Staff. In 1936 he was appointed Military Attache in the German Embassy in Ankara, and until 1938 he acted as Military Attache in Athens, Bagdad, and Teheran. He speaks Turkish and was not a Party member.

SCHADE

Commander, age about fifty, tall, grey hair, narrow face, good looking in appearance, well educated, good conduct, character a little

S E C R E T

outspoken, lives a reserved life. He was a Reserve Officer, but before World War I he joined the German Navy as a Professional Officer. Served at the Naval Attache in Istanbul as Adjutant since 1941. Later he retired and went into business. He was very skeptical of Party doctrines and was not a Party member.

SCHUCHARDT

Lieutenant Colonel, member of the General Staff, age about thirty, tall and slim, fair hair, abrupt in his behavior, professional soldier, married. Enjoyed a favorable career and received quick promotions. He was a Party member and Chief of the "Attache Gruppe" in Berlin. Died in action in 1945.

SEILER, Julius

Councilor, Press Attache, age in the early forties, tall, dark hair, good looking in appearance, intelligent, interested in music. He was Kreisleiter in the neighborhood of Nuremberg. He is not a professional diplomat, yet he was appointed Press Attache in Ankara without having any schooling for this work. He was a very convinced Party member.

STILLE

Consul, age middle thirties, average build, light hair, fair complexion, good sportsman, energetic, very sociable. He was a member of the Allgemeine SS and in close contact with the SD. Served as a member of the German Legation in Belgrade, and in 1942 he was sent to the Consulate General's office in Istanbul. Married to the daughter of Staatsminister MEISSNER. A Party member and had close contact with Party.

TWARDOWSKY, von

Gesandter in Consul General in Istanbul, age in the middle fifties, tall, distinguished in appearance, very respected, lives a retired life. He was a professional naval officer until the end of World War I, when he became a professional diplomat. He was the Consul General in Istanbul since 1943. Previously he was Chief of the Kultur Abteilung in the

S E C R E T

Foreign Office and before that Councillor at the German Embassy in Moscow. Very skeptical towards Party doctrines.

UPPENBORN

Captain, age thirty, short and slim, dark hair, very hard worker, liked by his colleagues, manager of a stud farm, and very well known in horse breeding circles. He served in World War II in the ranks until he became afflicted with rheumatic fever. At the end of 1943 he was transferred to Ankara as Adjutant at the Military Attache. Very skeptical towards Party ideas.

VOSS, de

Vice Consul at the Consulate General in Istanbul, age forty, tall, light hair, good-looking appearance, sociable, and well-educated. He was not a professional diplomat but the son of one. He always kept good connections with the Foreign Office and in former years was a non-professional Consul in Djidda. In the early years of World War II he stayed in Tiflis, where he took care of the Persian German traffic through Russia. In 1942 he was stationed in Trapazunt, Turkey, and several months later in Istanbul. He speaks Russian, and his connections with the Abwehr are not known. Party membership is doubted.

WALTHER, von

Age early forties, medium size, dark hair, narrow face, neat in appearance. He was secretary to the German Ambassador in Moscow, Count von der SCHULENBURG. In the Summer of 1943 he was appointed First Councillor at the Ankara Embassy. He is a member of the Party.

B. The Abwehr

HINZ

First Lieutenant, age thirty, medium build, dark hair, fair complexion, wears glasses. He is married and in civilian life was a professor at the University of Goettingen as specialist on oriental languages; speaks Persian, Arabic, Turkish, and classical Greek. Before

S E C R E T

the war he made a trip to Iran for scientific purpose and later wrote a book on this trip. He is a very passionate scientist and a member of IH Abwehr, and also belonged to "Fremde Heere West." He is a convinced National Socialist.

KOCH, Paula

Chief of KO branch in Adano, age middle fifties, short, grey hair, Catholic of the highest morals and character, speaks fluently Arabic, Turkish, French, and Portuguese. She served in World War I in Turkish hospitals as a nurse, knows a great number of Turkish military people of all ranks, was very much appreciated by these people for her unselfish conduct during her work in the hospitals. After World War I she operated a hospital in Istanbul and later served as a nurse in Brazil and China. She took care of line crossers to the north of Syria. She was especially adapted for this work by her profound knowledge of the mentality of the Arab. A Party member.

KOBLINSKY von

Sonderfuehrer (k), age about forty, very tall, slim, grey hair, liked by his colleagues and superiors, no knowledge of foreign countries. A lawyer and judicial expert at the center in Berlin. In the Abwehr he was Chef de Bureaux in the KO NO. He was in Istanbul since 1944 and was a member of the Allgemeine SS.

LUDWIG, alias ALKADIN

Captain, age about fifty, tall and slim, grey hair, narrow face, wears glasses. A psychologist and appreciated by his colleagues for his efficient work. He lives a very retired life and has very few friends, Chief of Section III in Istanbul. Served during World War I in the Austrian Army as a Reserve Officer. Very probably a Party member.

C. Miscellaneous Personalities

DUBLITZER

Age in the early twenties, tall and slim, light hair, narrow face. Born in Istanbul

S E C R E T

and during the war joined the Waffen SS. He was promoted to Untersturmfuehrer. He came back to Turkey in 1942 to work with the SD because of his knowledge of Turkish and Greek. A Party member.

FAST

Legations Attache, rank in the SS unknown. Age about thirty, tall and heavy set, light complexion, blond hair. He comes from a German family in Jerusalem, where his parents owned a hotel. He had a travelling agency there before the war. Prior to coming to Turkey in 1943 he served for the SD in Denmark and Tanger. In Turkey he was aide to MOIZICH in the Ankara office of the SD, specializing on political questions in Syria and Palestine. He is married, and his wife is Danish. A Party member.

HAMBURGER, Dr. Wilhelm

Age in the early twenties, short, handsome, and very youngish in appearance; an Austrian. During his studies he mixed with students from Iraq and Syria. He was sent to Istanbul in 1941 by the AST Vienna to act as an agent for the Suedostropa, Berlin. He opened a branch for this company in Istanbul in 1942. In 1944 he was compelled to liquidate it. In 1943 he was also employed by the Semperit Agency in Istanbul. He originates from a well-known Viennese merchant family. Very intelligent, but immature in his conduct and not to be taken seriously. In February 1944 he was ordered back to Germany for the military service, but did not comply and instead joined the British Secret Service. He was a Party member.

KOEHLER

Age in the middle thirties, short and broad, sharp-cut face, fair hair. He collaborated with the SD in Istanbul.

MOIZISCH, Ludwig

Legations attache, SS Sturmbannfuehrer. Age in the middle thirties, of medium height, strong physique, broad-shouldered, high cheekbones. He worked in the Embassy as an

S E C R E T

assistant commercial attache. He is Austrian the son of a professional officer of the Austrian army, and was a member of the illegal Nazi movement in Austria. He was chief of the SD in Ankara. Very ambitious and intelligent. In 1938 he was among the collaborators of SEYSS-INQUART in Vienna. Since 1940 he was in Istanbul and since about 1943 he was a member of the Allgemeine SS with the rank of Sturmbannfuehrer. He had little previous experience with foreign countries and speaks only English and French poorly. Married, with two children. A Party member.

ROEMER

Sonderfuehrer, age in the middle thirties, of medium height, dark hair, married. He was manager of the KO Branch in Alexandrette, and considered reliable. He was formerly a teacher of philology.

SCHENKER-ANGERER

Major, age about fifty, of medium height, grey hair. Comes from a well-known Viennese family and served in World War I as a reserve officer in the Austrian army. His forebears were the promoters of the prominent SCHENKER transport and shipping company, and until 1938 he was on the board of this company. He was married to a renowned opera singer of the Vienna Hofoper, who is Hungarian. Subject was chief of I L in Istanbul. He had to leave Turkey under orders, and rumors said that he was involved in the Austrian Widerstandsbewegung. In August 1944 he was released from the Wehrmacht after serving as a reserve officer in the anti-aircraft. A Party member.

SCHUELER

Korvetten Kapitaen, age about fifty, short and stocky, grey hair, married. Served during World War I as a reserve officer in the German navy. He was chief of the KO branch in Smyrna. Before 1945 he was at Headquarters I M in Berlin. Before the war he was engaged in export and import trade to and from Iran, where he spent several years. Party membership unknown.

S E C R E T

UHLSHOEFER

First lieutenant, age about thirty, five feet nine inches tall, dark hair, light complexion, married. Was employed in Abwehr I H. Before the war he was a teacher in the Turkish schools in Ankara and Smyrna. Quiet personality and a staunch Protestant. His wife was employed at the Deutsche Orient Bank in Istanbul. He speaks Turkish well. He was not a convinced Party member.

ZAEHRINGER

Sonderfuehrer K, age about fifty, short and slim, grey hair, narrow face, a bachelor. In World War I he was interned in Russia as a German civilian. He stayed there voluntarily all through the Russian Revolution and remained until 1930. Later he spent several years in Turkey. He was chief of the I M in Istanbul. Regarded as eccentric. He is an accomplished linguist in Russian, Turkish, and French. Party membership unknown.

NEUMANN

Colonel, Air Force. Age thirty-four or thirty-five, tall, military appearance, black hair. He is from Siebenbuergen. In 1934 he joined the German air force as a professional officer and was trained as a fighter pilot. During the war he became one of the best known German fighter pilots and received quick promotions. For several years he was commander of the "Jagdgeschwader 27", which fought in Africa during the successful period of Rommel's offensive. The most successful German pilot, Capt. MARSEILLE, was a member of his squadron. At the end of the war he was in Italy (Jadfuehrer Italien), with headquarters in Verona. He was not a Party member.

WOLFF

Vice-consul at the Consulate General at Istanbul. Age about thirty, medium height, dark hair, narrow face. He was Kriminalrat, and enrolled in the Consulate General as vice-consul. He left the Rhineland for the first time in the Spring of 1943 to become chief of the SD office in Istanbul. Before being appointed an SD official he worked as a business clerk. A Party member.

- 15 -

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

D. Dr. Paul LEVERKUEHN

Age fiftytwo or fiftythree, tall and slim, but slightly hunched, wears glasses and has blond hair. His military rank was that of a captain, and he was a lawyer by profession.

He was born in Luebeck, Germany. His father, a judge, was a highly distinguished personality. Both his parents were convinced Protestants and brought their son up along religious lines. LEVERKUEHN never lost his deep interest in religious questions.

He started his studies at a humanistic high school in Luebeck, where he prepared himself for advanced work at a university. After finishing his work at this school he was sent to Scotland for several months to learn the English language. There he first obtained contact with English literature, which he read with great enthusiasm. His remarkable memory enables him even at the present time to quote entire poems that he read during his stay in Scotland.

After his return to the continent he began the study of law in Munich and was there when the first World War broke out. With his older brother, to whom he was greatly attached, he joined a Bavarian cavalry regiment as a volunteer. During this training he became acquainted with a von SCHEUBNER-RICHTER, of Baltic origin. In 1915 von SCHEUBNER-RICHTER went to Turkey and through various connections was appointed to lead an expedition to Northern Persia for the purpose of negotiating contracts with Kurd tribes. SCHEUBNER-RICHTER secured equipment for this expedition in Istanbul, Turkey, and selected members from his former Bavarian garrison to accompany him, including the two LEVERKUEHN brothers.

LEVERKUEHN remained in Turkey about one year and traveled throughout Northern Turkey and Persia, down to Bagdad. He later wrote a book about the expedition. The first contact with the Near East, its atmosphere and its problems, its people and its history, impressed him greatly, and he never lost his deep interest in the region. All French, German, and English literature dealing with the Near East was read by him.

After returning from Turkey he served on the Western Front, where his brother died in action. After the Armistice he concluded his law studies, with the resultant Doctor of Law, and passed all other state examinations. About 1922 or 1923, he was sent to Washington, D.C., on a special mission through friends in the Foreign Office. The German Embassy at that time had started negotiations with the American authorities for the return of German property in the United States. He acted as a member of the German Embassy in Washington and negotiated

S E C R E T

with the board in charge of the alien property. It took him four or five years to complete this mission.

He then continued to remain in the United States and secured employment with the Warburg firm in New York, becoming manager of the company. Altogether his stay lasted eight years, and he made a great number of friends during his travels throughout the country. Among others, he became acquainted with Mr. Bill DONOVAN (later Maj. Gen. DONOVAN of the OSS), and this friendship continued until war broke out.

In 1930 he finally returned to Germany and settled in Berlin as a lawyer. He was very successful in his practice, and his knowledge of America gained him many prominent German clients for their claims and law-suits in America. In like manner, his American friends entrusted him with their power of attorney to follow up their legal interests in Germany. LEVERKUEHN collaborated with the DONOVAN law firm in the United States by handling all of its German interests, and the American firm reciprocated by handling all business that the LEVERKUEHN firm had in the States.

After his return to Berlin, LEVERKUEHN made many trips to the States and frequently was a DONOVAN guest. His many friends included diplomats, newspapermen, artists, and business men. In Berlin banking and business circles he was appointed to the board of directors of various companies.

During the present war LEVERKUEHN again joined the army, but his age and rather weak physique did not permit combat service. Consequently, he performed special work provided by friends who knew of his capabilities. On one mission he was sent to Paris by General WARLIMONT, General JODL's right-hand man on the Wehrmachtsfuehrungsstab, for the purpose of compiling a report on the Agence Havas. Later, for a period of six months, he was with the Foreign Office and was sent to Tabris, Iran, to act as consul. In June or July of 1941 he was sent to Istanbul, Turkey, to open an office for the I H. There he made a close study of all the problems and conditions then current in Turkey. His trust in one of his subordinates, however, resulted in the "VERMEHREN Affair", described previously in this report, and brought an end to his activities in Turkey.

In 1944 LEVERKUEHN was recalled to Berlin and discharged from the Wehrmacht. After his return to civilian life he secured a position with the Deutsche Waffen-und Munitions A.G., in Berlin.

S E C R E T

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION REPORT

I. PRISONER: DESCRIPTION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

Eberhard Ernst MOMM was born in Forest, Belgium (near Brussels). He was registered with the German Consul in Belgium at his birth, so that he immediately acquired German citizenship. MOMM is now 47 years old. His father, Theodor MOMM, is deceased, but his mother, Elisabeth nee OSTERMANN, 81, is still living. MOMM has one brother, Theodor, 52, and three sisters, Adele SCHLOEMANN, 55, Elisabeth SCHNIEWIND, 54, and Ruth von LINSINGING, 44. He is married to Christa nee JESSEN, who is 45, and they have a 17 year old son. His wife at present lives at 6 Hohenegg Strasse in Constanz, Germany.

Subject was educated in Brussels, where he went to elementary school for three years and for seven years to high school, from which he graduated with high honors. When World War I broke out MOMM was seventeen years old. He went through the war as a Second Lieutenant and after the war began his career as a business man. His family owned an export business in Holland, and he was in charge of it until 1934. In 1934 he joined the firm of RABROW and Company, where he was a stock owner and also a contact man with the Ministry of Economics in Berlin. As the business of the firm consisted of imports and exports, he had an opportunity to travel widely, and he states that he visited England, the Low Countries, the Balkans, and Turkey during the five years with the firm. Whenever he was not traveling he worked for the main office in Hamburg. World War II interrupted his work, and he was inducted into the Army. However, in November 1940 he was released, and from then until June 1944 he was in Turkey, for what he calls "personal business" in connection with export. During that time he was still connected with RABROW and Company, who supposedly sent him to Turkey to represent their interests in wool. During his travels in Europe he acquired a knowledge of French, English, and Dutch, all of which he speaks fluently.

The prisoner is six feet five inches tall, weighs 187 pounds, has an oval face, gray hair on the sides of his head, and gray eyes.

II. BRIEF PARTY OR SERVICE HISTORY.

It has already been mentioned that MOMM was a Second Lieutenant in the First World War. At the beginning of the Second

S E C R E T

World War he was inducted into the anti-aircraft branch of the Luftwaffe with the rank of First Lieutenant. In December 1939 he was promoted to the grade of Captain. When he went back into active status in the Luftwaffe after his Turkish "interlude" he was immediately promoted to the grade of Major and was assigned to the Fourth Fliegerschule Division, which was stationed near Berlin. Shortly before the end of the war he was sent on a mission to Italy.

MOMM claims that he has never at any time been a member of the NSDAP or any of its affiliated organizations.

III. PERSONALITIES ASSOCIATED WITH.

During his extensive stay in Turkey MOMM met numerous officials of the German Embassy in Ankara. He personally knew and associated with Freiherr Franz von PAPEN, one-time Vice-Chancellor of Germany under HITLER, who was then Germany's Ambassador to Turkey. He also knew Captain Paul LEVERKUEHN, Ko Leiter Istanbul. Another friend was Rittmeister Graf CORETH, with whom he stayed in Weisskirchen near Linz shortly before his arrest.

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

When the Red Army approached Berlin in the beginning of 1945 the unit to which MOMM belonged was gradually moved out of Berlin and southward. The last headquarters of his unit was at Kufstein, Austria. On or about 23 April 1945 he was sent by his commanding officer, Lt. Col. von RETTBERG to Verona, Italy to report to Luftwaffe Colonel NEUMANN, Jagdfuehrer Italien, to see whether the latter could use his services. He traveled only as far as Lake Garda, where during a strafing attack by American planes his car with all his belongings and papers was destroyed. He made his way back to Austria and at the end of the war reported to American authorities in Innsbruck. He was briefly interrogated by CIC and received a permit to proceed to Weisskirchen, where he stayed with his friend, Graf CORETH. On 8 August 1945 he was arrested by the Salzburg Detachment of CIC for investigation of his activities in Turkey during the war. It is suspected that he was connected with the Abwehr in Turkey, but he has denied that he belonged to the Abwehr or that he had any knowledge of its activities.

S E C R E T

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

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION REPORT

Prisoner: MOMM, Eberhard Ernst;
Major, Luftwaffe

Case No.: S023

Ref. No.: S023/USDIC/PE2

Date : 12 October 1945

Copy No.: 68

RETAIN OR DESTROY

CONTENTS

- I. Prisoner: Description and Vital Statistics.
- II. Brief Party or Service History.
- III. Personalities Associated With.
- IV. Time, Place, Special Reasons, and Circumstances of Arrest.
- V. Intended Scope of Interrogation.
- VI. Suspected Connections.
- VII. Requests for Information.
- VIII. Reliability.
- IX. Disposition.

S E C R E T

Encl. #2

32-5-3-416

S E C R E T

V. INTENDED SCOPE OF INTERROGATION.

MOMM has already been interrogated by CIC Salzburg, but his status in the enemy service was unclear. He has in the interim been tentatively identified as an Abwehr agent, and it is intended to interrogate him concerning Abwehr activities and personalities in Turkey.

VI. SUSPECTED CONNECTIONS.

SHAEF records indicate that MOMM was a leading figure in the Abwehr in Turkey and it is suspected that he had connections with Abwehr Luft in Italy with headquarters in Verona. His furlough in the German Army for four years for "economic reasons", his prolonged stay in Turkey, and his admitted association with one or two Abwehr officials in Turkey support this suspicion.

VII. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.

All agencies that have any requests as to further interrogation of this prisoner on aspects other than those in the above intended scope should notify this Headquarters.

All agencies that have any information on the prisoner or related matters beyond that noted in this Preliminary Report are requested to forward same to this Headquarters.

VIII. RELIABILITY.

Subject is very talkative and appears to be trying to put over a good story backing his innocence. Reliability is only fair.

IX. DISPOSITION.

Subject will be detained at this Headquarters pending detailed interrogation.

Joseph M. Kolisch Jr.
JOSEPH M. KOLISCH
FOR: Major, Infantry Capt. Sig.
Commanding

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-4-

S E C R E T