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by the Central Intelligence Agency
Date: 2001/2003

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
(2)(A) ☐ ☒
(2)(B) Methods/ Sources ☐
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

HIS INPUT NO.

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Subject : Karl HASS
Place Acquired : Italy, Rome
Evaluation : B-3
Source : As Indicated
Report No. : PIR-10257
Date of Info : May-June 51
Date Acquired: June 1951
Date of Report: 18 July 51
Reference : PIR-9605, 9506, et al

A. Source [] 24 May 1951:

1. At 1100 hours, 22 May 1951, HASS telephoned Source at his home asking for an appointment and why Source has not recently shown himself. Source justified this by claiming that he was very busy. An appointment was fixed for 2000 hours at the Doney Cafe on Via Veneto.
2. In regard to HASS' absences from Rome, Source learned that during the period between 25 April and 5 May, HASS was absent for a few days. On 11 May he again left Rome and returned on or about 22-21 May. On 22 May he telephoned Source, as indicated above.
3. Source and HASS dealt with two questions. The first was of the "Union Press Service". HASS has been charged to obtain information on the countries behind the Iron Curtain. For this purpose, his interest is centered on this agency, which began publication towards the middle of March 1951. Source personally knows that the director, ZILARY, is a very serious type of man and is believed incapable of saying silly things. Some time ago Source personally went to visit ZILARY but found one FOTHI (sic) administrator of the UPS, asking for the authenticity of the information and expressing the belief that ZILARY must have worked about six months organizing before publication of the bulletin. The bulletin is now distributed in about 98 copies to newspapers and reviews, and solicitations for subscriptions are being made, otherwise its life would be compromised. HASS has learned on his own that UPS is in rather precarious condition; the information contained in its bulletins is good (according to HASS), and wants to make the following proposal to ZILARY: "I am thinking of financing you and you do everything to keep the UPS alive, passing to the bulletin such information as is publishable, and passing to me the more delicate ones." Source and HASS were to go and see ZILARY on Friday, 25 May at 1100 hours. HASS was not to present himself with his real name but under the name of SMITH of the Hamburger Press.
4. The second question discussed was the case of Captain ANEDDA (Source spells the name ANNETTA) of SANTINI's organization (SIOS-Air). This ANEDDA alias VILLA alias Giorgio, works for SANTINI. He was a fighter plane officer in the Italian Social Republic, later becoming instructor of Israel personnel in 1947 during the war in Palestine. Thus ANEDDA won the confidence of the Israel Legation in Rome, but reports everything that takes place to SANTINI. Recently the Legation requested from him the name of a person who could periodically act as contact between them and Tel Aviv. This person would carry documents from Tel Aviv to Rome. ANEDDA spoke of this to HASS and HASS told Source.

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5. Source promised nothing and stated it was almost impossible for him to find such a person. In case Source found such a person he would first have to pass the documents to Source and then to their destination. HASS stated that he was in agreement with this.

6. Source and HASS were to meet at 1100 hours in Piazza Quadrata on the 25th of May.

B. Source [] 22 June 1951:

RIS INPUT NO. 33 7. On the evening of 22 June HASS departed by train for Bolzano where he was to meet with LUONGO.

C. Source [] undated:

8. Source [] in his determination instructed [] to re-establish contacts with HASS. No report was furnished on the outcome of this contact, but [] obtained a list of USSR scientific and technical publications which HASS wants. A photostat copy of the list is attached herewith (Attachment "A"). (FIELD COMMENT: It should be noted that the list is practically identical with the list received by this Station from headquarters.)

D. Source [] 3 July 1951:

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9. In compliance with Source [] instruction on Saturday morning, 30 June [] telephoned [] asking for an appointment with HASS for 1000 hours. It had been almost one month since [] had seen HASS because of his examinations. [] and HASS met at the beer parlor on Via della Croce, and later went to the "Tennis Bar" at Foro Italico. There they talked. They ended up by discussing the subject matter which they left off on in May (see above), i.e., the Union Press Agency. HASS affirmed he was one hundred percent sure that it was Cominform, especially FOXY. The information which the UPS publishes comes from the Vatican. The system is as follows: Hungarian clergy who have adhered to the convention between Church and State have maintained contacts with their sympathizers in the Vatican. Contacts are fed by Soviet Hungarian agents who through this pro-Soviet clergy have found a way to be informed and to inform. The function of the UPS is the following: It is destined to sound out repercussions in specific circles to which the bulletin is sent, circles in which facts and events are known and which are fully mentioned in the bulletin, but to which is given a desired interpretation. The bulletin is therefore a sort of "trial balloon". That which counts is not so much its informative functions that it should gain credit as an anti-communist sheet and thus be in a position to sound out repercussions in those specific circles to which it is directed. The game is on a large scale because it is connected to Vatican circles and to some priests who finance it for the Hungarian clergy.

10. HASS has made contacts with one of these priests who allegedly had furnished him the above (para 9) information. HASS is now investigating to establish its veracity. HASS is to give Source the name of the priest.

11. The next meeting between [] and HASS was to take place at 1800 hours on 5 July 1951.

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