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BE:PS - Mr. C. J. Scavarda

February 17, 1953

BE:PS - Walter C. Stelt

Abduction of HOEHER

A meeting was held in Mr. Stelt's office today, which was attended by Herr Kleyer, West Sector Chief, Herr Heindke, GCIS and Mr. Stelt.

Heindke made the following statement. He knows Hoehner since March 1951, and he also knows his wife. He has been in contact with Hoehner on official business. Hoehner is living in Berlin-Kreuzberg, 5 Galbertstrasse. He is a representative of the FDJ faction on the Kreuzberg District Assembly, and is also a representative of a West German Counter Intelligence Agency, Group Ceel. Heindke knows from Hoehner himself, that he was a police officer in the rank of Major till the end of the war. He was arrested in 1945 in Halle, Soviet Zone by the Soviets and sent to Russia, where he worked in a factory making parts of V-Bombs. Later he was sent to an Antifa School in Moscow, and was released in 1948. On his return to Germany he made contact with the above mentioned Group Ceel, and worked for them in Berlin. On Saturday morning, February 14, 1953, at about 0900 hrs. Hoehner's wife called Heindke and told him that her husband is missing since Friday, February 13, 1800 hours. When Heindke asked her how she happened to call him, she stated that her husband had given her several numbers in case something should happen to him, among others Heindke's number. She believed however, that he might have had too much to drink or had gone to see a friend, and was not too worried so far. Heindke advised her to wait for a period of 24 hours, as is customary, and then report him to the police as missing. She told Heindke that she could not do this on account of his position. If he disappeared, she was to wait until she hears from West Germany. She would be contacted from somebody from West Germany, and they would take over. Heindke however, advised her again to report to the Police, since he might have met with an accident. On Sunday, February 15, being Hoehner's birthday, Heindke went over to his apartment. Frau Hoehner told him that she had reported to Police Revier 107, Kreuzberg. She had also told Heindke, that her husband had gone out with a friend by the name of Kirves, whom he had known for about 2 years. Kirves is an East Sector resident. At the Police Revier Frau Hoehner had not reported that her husband was a former police officer in the rank of Major, but only that he had served with the Police. She had also stated that he was known at Abteilung V. (Copy of missing person report is attached hereto). Revier 107 immediately sent out a teletype message. On February 17, Sangmeister, called Heindke and asked him about this case. Heindke went over to Abteilung V and told them the facts as mentioned above. Abteilung V denied having seen a report on the disappearance of Hoehner. The teletype message was found, but apparently had gone unnoticed by Abteilung V, although Hoehner must be known at Abteilung V, since he supplied them with informations.

On February 17, the SPD newspaper "Telegraf" issued an article on the abduction of Hoehner. Later the "Kurier" another newspaper stated that the Police, Abteilung V, had no knowledge of Hoehner being missing. This apparently was due to the fact that Abteilung V had not seen the teletype message sent out by the Police Revier. It is surmised that Frau Hoehner might have reported the

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disappearance of her husband to Buergermeister Kressmann of Kreuzberg, on account of his being a member of the FDP faction, and that Kressmann has given this information to the press, i.e. the "Telegraf".

Meanwhile a Herr Albrecht, a member of another German Intelligence Agency came to see Mr. Stelt. He stated that three men had come from Bonn yesterday evening, and that he had met them today at the Ratskeller in Schoeneberg. They had heard about the abduction of Hoehner and had come to Berlin right away. They gave Albrecht an emergency number to identify Hoehner. Albrecht came with the request that the matter be handled by US Sector Amt instead of Abteilung V, since Allied interest were involved.

Frau Hoehner had also stated that her husband told her not to call Abteilung V.

Teletype Message:

RKB 107 to all Police Inspections, Criminal Kommissariats, Police Reviers, Revier Criminal Offices, Criminal Police Department, Abteilung V/1(S)

Missing since 13 February 1953 Wolfgang HOEHER, born 15 February 1914 in Magdeburg, residing Berlin SO 36, 5 Adalbertstrasse. Wearing a grey leather coat, grey hat, dark brown pants, light sports jacket, brown shoes (stitched edges), light briefcase with zipper containing personal documents. Description: approximately 184 cm high, blond hair, blue eyes, heavy set. Hoehner was last seen at Wittenbergplatz.

Information from RKB 107, Journal No. 112/53  
RKB 107, Reference No. Kuehne, Crim. Secretary.  
Revier 107 15 February FS 1233 hrs Suchanek