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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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6 April 1953

Chief, EE

Chief, Berlin Operations Base

CART/VATERLAND/CONSUL/Operational

Guenter WEISSHAGEN

1. Subject, Chief of Abteilung V of West Berlin Headquarters, was entertained for lunch at my private residence on 3 April 1953. Present were [ ] and [ ]

2. The purpose of the meeting, which had been previously cleared with [ ] was to cement BOB's personal and professional relationship with Subject and to ascertain along what lines we might be able to assist in building up and strengthening the political branch of Abteilung V.

3. The 1953 budget of the City of Berlin allows an additional 112 slots for the political branch. They will be filled by transferring suitable detective force personnel (Kriminalpolizei) to Abteilung V. Unfortunately, the head of Abteilung K, Herr SARGELSTER, has been obstructing the growth of Abteilung V and must be expected to raise difficulties if called upon to relinquish K-personnel for V.

4. V's transportation problems are as acute as ever. Four passenger cars, three of prewar vintage, are the organic transportation of Abteilung V. In theory at least V has access to K's motorpool. In practice several important operations have come to naught due to lack of transportation when it was needed. We debated at some length ways and means by which we could augment V's motorized strength. (Everything hinges on [ ] willingness to accept such help. Until now [ ] has been maintaining a bold front in disclaiming that V has been getting the thin end of the stick.)

5. In connection with the ELBAC incident, notes were compared on the role played by ZIPPER in Berlin. Subject was told that we have a more than routine interest in being kept posted on those ZIPPER activities that

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out athwart police prerogatives. Subject maintains sporadic liaison with one SCHÄFER, alleged to be a ZIPPER representative not stationed in Berlin and visiting Berlin at irregular intervals. According to Subject, SCHÄFER's bona fide has been vouched for by a mutual friend, a former Abwehr - member who served with SCHÄFER in the same unit (they were parachuted into Poland behind the enemy lines).

6. Subject's personal impression of ZIPPER personnel he has come in contact with is rather unfavorable. He compared them to the average run of Blank office intelligence representatives whom he considers high-caliber, just the type of CA specialists whom Subject would welcome on the staff of V. He has found them modest, unobtrusive and efficient.

7. We once more re-hashed the KLANG incident which has left a very bad taste in the mouths of Subject and his associates. (KLANG was a V official, recently fired on the grounds of his collaboration with ZIPPER). We find it somewhat difficult to draw the line between truth and conjecture. Subject is avowedly acting on a hunch in suspecting KLANG of having denounced ("hoonahon lassen") WENDEL to the NSD as an act of revenge, suspecting WENDEL of having had a hand in his (KLANG's) dismissal from the police force. In the same breath, however, Subject voices the suspicion that HOEMER may have been an Eastern agent all along. As regards KLANG, Subject considers him a major threat to Western security. He points to his promiscuity in striking up intelligence connections - LIOTER, the French IS, the Landesamt fuer Verfassungsschutz - as posing a distinct security hazard. He blames him for having furnished HOEMER with detailed information on V, its order of battle and a wealth of operational data, which must now be presumed at the disposal of the NSD. Subject claims that SCHÄFER has reflected considerable concern on the part of ZIPPER in regard to KLANG's security. Subject has suggested to SCHÄFER that ZIPPER furnish V documentary evidence to prove that KLANG has betrayed official secrets, a charge on which he could be sentenced to at least a one-year prison term.

8. I assured Subject that as a matter of firm policy BOB does not attempt to suborn police personnel. All our dealings are cleared beforehand with [ ] I stressed our desire to continue a friendly and cooperative working relationship with V which could be of considerable advantage to both. We briefly touched on the issue of material support, tentatively suggesting our making available to them a number of vehicles for special operations. Thought was also given to a U.S. sponsored training program for new V personnel, involving such services as bringing prominent experts to Berlin and placing training films at their disposal.

9. A few additional biographical data on Subject were obtained. He served on the Italian front with the 8th Panzer Division which was committed during the Sicilian Campaign and the Nettuno beachhead landing.

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After the war Subject completed his law studies (Assessor). He has been with the Berlin police force one and a half years. His rapid promotion to division chief is mainly attributable to the critical shortage of even halfway qualified police personnel. Subject's direct superior is the police vice-president Dr. URBAN. He is the co-equal of the commander of the constabulary and of the criminal police chief. His monthly net salary is 650 DM West.

10. No policy guidance or operational support is being requested at this stage. There has been previous correspondence which we are in the process of locating. In late 1951 BOB reported on the formation of a political law enforcement branch within the Berlin police and raised in general terms the issue as to the type of support we would be permitted to render. A very encouraging reply from Washington over the signature of Fletcher R. KNIGHT(?) was then received. For the time being we propose to continue inventorizing the main needs of Abteilung V and exploring the "political" angles in attaining a more intimate association with the affairs of V. [ ] is going to be the responsible case officer.

Approved by:

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