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OC FILE

4 January 1956

Headquarters 66th CIC Group, USAREUR, APO 154, US Army

HOEHER, Wolfgang (S)

*Jeff C. [unclear]
William C. [unclear]
8 Nov 56*

On 23 November 1955, a coded source of this Group revealed the following information:

a. On 19 November 1955, Source arrived in LEIPZIG by train from West Germany. Source was met by SUBJECT, upon whose invitation he was traveling. SUBJECT took Source to his home located at LEIPZIG, Klengenstrasse 17, where Source was billeted throughout his stay. At 2000 hours SUBJECT and Source attended a meeting of the GDSF (Gesellschaft fuer Deutsch-sowjetische Freundschaft - Association for German-Soviet Friendship), which was held in the State Exhibition Grounds, Hall II, LEIPZIG. This meeting was the basis for SUBJECT's invitation to Source to visit LEIPZIG. The meeting lasted approximately two hours and was attended by approximately 1,500 persons, including over 40 high-ranking Russian Army Officers, who were honored guests, and several unidentified delegations from West Germany. The main speaker at the meeting was one Herr (fnu) OSCHATZ, a member of the Volkskammer (Peoples' Council, Lower House), supposedly a member of the Presidium of the National Council of the National Front. The theme of OSCHATZ's speech concerned the necessity for cooperation between the German and Russian peoples. OSCHATZ stated that only those people who have the Soviet Union as a friend can consider themselves lucky. This statement was given a thunderous applause by the assembly.

b. After the meeting SUBJECT and Source went to the "Feina Bar" where they had a few drinks and discussed politics in general and their former service in the German Abwehr (Army Counter Intelligence). HOEHER related the following to Source:

(1) When HOEHER left West BERLIN he went to East BERLIN, taking some of the Gehlen Organization files with him. He then obtained a position with a newspaper in East BERLIN. In 1953 he went to LEIPZIG, where he was appointed Economic Editor/Reporter of the "National Zeitung", which position he holds at the present time, with a monthly salary of 1,400 East Marks.

(2) In his spare time HOEHER works for "Abteilung III" (Department III) of the SSD (Staatsicherheits Dienst - State Security Service), which is the intelligence department. HOEHER does not receive any salary for his work with the SSD.

(3) Intelligence in the German Democratic Republic is very advanced and they are continually learning the names of Western Intelligence agents operating in East Germany. Every day many agents of the Gehlen Organization, the fighting Group against Inhumanity and the Association of Free Jurists are apprehended in the East Zone. These agents have the mission

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of sabotage and espionage. East German intelligence has proved that the organizations which send the agents into the East are sponsored and paid by the Americans. Many such agents have requested and received asylum in the East and have turned over considerable material to East German intelligence.

(4) HOEHER related that (fnu) BENZINGER, the man who was responsible for the Gehlen Organization in KARLSRUHE (NW 5528), Germany, was arrested for high treason by the West German Police and is interned in the Hospital Section of the State Prison in DARMSTADT (NA 7524), Germany.

c. During the course of the evening, Source noticed that HOEHER was well acquainted with the employees of the "Femina Bar" and was treated like a dignitary.

d. While at the "Femina Bar", source made a telephone call to former Field Marshal Friedrich Von PAULUS in BERLIN. He spoke to Von PAULUS about arranging a meeting between former General Gottlob BERGER and Von PAULUS. Source was informed by Von PAULUS that they should be able to arrange a meeting just prior to Christmas 1955 in East BERLIN. The purpose of the meeting concerns the cooperation between the Organization of Former German Soldiers in East and West Germany. No date for the proposed meeting was established.

e. On 20 November 1955 Source and SUBJECT continued their conversation and were joined by a (Herr) Robert MUELLER, the Organization Leader for the NDP (National-Demokratische Partei - National Democratic Party), District of LEIPZIG. They discussed the Spring Fair in LEIPZIG and the Athletic and Sport Festival which will be held in LEIPZIG in September 1956. HOEHER stated that "they" would like to have merchants from West Germany display exhibits in the Spring Fair. In particular, he requested that Source contact a Herr (fnu) HILLER, STUTTGART/Vaihingen, a wine merchant and wholesaler, to determine whether or not HILLER would consent to display his wine products in the Spring Fair, LEIPZIG. HOEHER inferred that some of HILLER's expenses would be paid for him. Source then reiterated that he has very little time away from his place of employment and his political activity. HOEHER did not pursue the conversation along these lines. MUELLER then remarked that Source could possibly furnish him with a few names and addresses of persons in STUTTGART with whom he could correspond. The purpose of the correspondence was not clarified by MUELLER, nor did he press Source for an answer.

f. HOEHER requested that Source send him more copies of the "Der Spiegel" (The Mirror) and "The Militaerpolitische Forum" (The Military Political Forum). He explained that he uses these publications in

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conjunction with his work at the newspaper. The publications are available in East Germany, but they arrive six to eight weeks after publication.

g. HOEHER then related that due to the press of business he probably would not be able to have Source as a guest until after the holidays. Source departed LEIPZIG at 0825 hours, 21 November 1955. HOEHER accompanied Source to the LEIPZIG railroad station and paid for Source's return ticket, and gave Source 10 East Marks for spending money. (B-6)

AGENT'S NOTES: HOEHER had previously requested publications listed in paragraph f, above. Source, upon approval of this Group, provided HOEHER with same. The publications can be purchased on the open market. Source believes that HOEHER is friendly towards him because both are former German Abwehr members, although they were not acquainted at that time, and Source has been politically active in extreme right wing political movements.

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