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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
CHINA THEATER
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REPORT

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Office of Origin: SHANGHAI

Report Made At: SHANGHAI	Date: 13 November 1945	Period Covered: 9 November 1945	Made By: MJH BH-027
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Subject: FRANZ HUBER: ACTIVITIES AS HEAD OF GESTAPO IN SHANGHAI	Status: PENDING
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Classification: Espionage

References: Report dated Shanghai 18 October 1945, entitled

F. Huber: Activities as Head of Gestapo in Shanghai.

Source: YEX-40

Details:

SYNOPSIS:

Source, who was in an excellent position to observe the functions of the GESTAPO in Shanghai, has furnished his evaluation thereof. This information is attached hereto.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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Evaluation: C-2

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Approved By:

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FRANZ HUBER:
ACTIVITIES AS HEAD OF GESTAPO IN SHANGHAI

DETAILS:

The Police-Attache.

Since 1938 the Reichssicherheits-Hauptamt (SS) tried to have Police-Attaches attached to the German Missions abroad. At the beginning of the war Police-Attaches operated in most of the Axis countries. Until the end of the war their official position and functions had not been defined, owing to disagreement between the Reichssicherheits-Hauptamt and the Foreign Office about the issue of regulations. The Foreign Office insisted that the police-Attaches should be subject in all general matters to the authority of the Chiefs of Mission, that no special code could be admitted and that all reports of the Police-Attaches be submitted to the Chief of Mission. All questions of foreign politics should be excluded from Police-Attaches' reports.

The Police-Attaches reported mostly on questions concerning the German communities abroad, any activities against the Nazi Party, and on the Communist movements.

On the appointment of MEISINGER as Police-Attache to the Embassy in Tokyo in 1941, one of his agents named KAHNER was posted in Shanghai, and reported to him regularly about the life of Germans in China. Frequent friction occurred between KAHNER, the KO and the Consulate. Finally Mr. KAHNER was transferred to Kobe, because his position in Shanghai had become untenable, owing to his entire lack of discretion. Major HUBER, who had previously held appointments to Tokyo and Bangkok, was transferred to China in the beginning of 1943. MEISINGER claimed authority over Huber, which the latter denied, finally winning the point with the Reichssicherheits-Hauptamt.

The reports of HUBER were to be submitted to the Embassy Office in Shanghai. Having no code of his own, it was in any case impossible for him to communicate independently with Berlin. Reports sent by courier to Tokyo also were to be submitted to the Embassy, but it was of course difficult to control communications by letter between China and Japan.

HUBER's ambitions were less in the purely police field. Though he probably reported to Tokyo about the German communities, he showed only limited zeal in this direction. Instead he dedicated much time to gathering information about Communist activities and posed, in competition with the KO, as an expert on the Soviet Union. His reports, mainly on Russian production figures, were hardly more correct than those of the KO.

He received between five and six thousand Marks monthly which included payment of his own salary and that of his staff.

After the Abwehr-Department was taken over by the Reichssicherheits-Hauptamt in August 1944, HUBER wished also to be put in command of the KO, but up to the time of the surrender of Germany no change had been effected.

ERANZ HUBER:
ACTIVITIES AS HEAD OF GESTAPO IN SHANGHAI

Page 2

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

Investigation is continuing in order fully to determine the scope and nature of the Gestapo activities in Shanghai.