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### 31. European Union

About the turn of the year 1943/4 my Berlin office, mainly sub-department IV A 2b, succeeded in penetrating an enemy organisation whose leading members were strongly bolshevised and consequently ready to collaborate. On arresting a soviet parachute agent in Germany a card was found on him with the name of Dr. Hatschek who was employed at the Tobis-Film A.G. On questioning, the agent said that he would be able to get connections in other prominent circles. Dr. H was absolutely trustworthy and had worked for the Soviet Intelligence Service for years.

Dr. Hatschek was visited by an official of my office disguised as the presumed parachute agent who was able to get information from him regarding espionage matters. Later on he gave the Stapo official not only political directives but also those from the Amament Industry especially the one dealing with precision mechanics and high frequency, under the impression that they were destined for Moscow. By and by Dr. Hatschek's circle of friends came to light of which the following are still in my memory :-

A head physician of the Surgical Dept. of the Robert Koch Hospital in Berlin - Dr. Grosscourt

An assistant at the Technical High School in Berlin, Charlottenburg - Dr. Havemann, who was a friend of Dr. Grosscourt and who made several recognised inventions during the war.

Richter - An engineer belonging to the Staff Dept. of Reichsmarschall Goering who before the war had arranged the Hunting Exhibition and later other festivities for Goering.

The whole circuit consisted of about 40-50 people who were mostly from the better classes of society. Besides their treacherous activity they intended to form a left radical party under the title of "Europaeische Union". The population of Berlin were to be shown by means of instructive leaflets and explanative booklets that Germany's only way out of the confused situation and which would still offer a possibility of meriting its existence, was to come to an understanding with Russia.

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## Appendix

(I) The change of location of the Gestapo from BERLIN and its eventual dissolution.

(1) The temporary Gestapo H.Q. "Dachs I" and "Dachs II" in FREINITZ near MUENCHENBERG/BRANDENDURG.

It became clear in the Spring of 1944 that the Gestapo (RSHA IV) could not continue its work in BERLIN as the various offices which were already spread out were threatened more and more by the ever increasing air raids and tele-communications to and from BERLIN were continually interrupted.

A wood was chosen near WULKOW (approximately 15 km west of the ODER) and two camps were erected about 4 to 5 km apart as a precaution against air raids. In these wooden huts all the Gestapo offices were installed. Only small detachments of the various sub-departments remained in BERLIN, especially the Chief of Amt IV who spent almost two thirds of the week there.

In WULKOW was a Telephone exchange of the German Reichpost which RSHA IV could best use for its tele-communications. That was another reason for the move to WULKOW.

(2) Formation of a working staff in HOF.

The move took place in July 1944 in various stages. The evacuation was kept secret from the outside world. The camps had to be closed after the Red Army breakthrough across the ODER in Jan/Feb and the whole area became a battle zone.

The climax of the English air raids on BERLIN came on 3rd Feb. 1945 at the same time that the Gestapo had intended to return there. In these circumstances it was impossible to bring the offices back to BERLIN and the Chief of Amt IV decided to evacuate the majority of the Gestapo personnel to HOF in Bavaria. Most of the officials received the immediate order to proceed to HOF via BERLIN where they were to report at the Censorship Office which was to be found in a camp in Wilhelm Gustloff Strass in HOF. The greater part of the Stapo documents and current files were sent to HOF as well.

The billeting of the staff in HOF was totally insufficient. Every day an air raid on HOF was expected, therefore after about 14 days the various sub-sections of the Dept. were spread out in the neighbourhood and, as far as I remember, amongst the villages, farms and castles, such as DERG, BRUCK near HOF, and a few other small villages. Working possibilities in these billets were very restricted. Communications were the biggest difficulties as for instance a courier system had often to be used between BERLIN and HOF.

The Allied advance in the west forced the staff to evacuate southwards. The plan was to go to the neighbourhood of REICHENHALL. As far as I know the first stop was to be LANDSHUT. I cannot say whether it was moved from there to the REICHENALL district as the normal communications were out after leaving HOF and only occasionally were they restored by wireless.

The staff, in the last stage of its existence, was transferred into the Southern Group of RSHA IV and was to work independantly in the area of Southern Germany not yet occupied.

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Appendix 2.

(3) Formation of an H.Q. Staff,

As it became more and more obvious that the Government intended to remain in BERLIN with the Fuehrer, the Chief of the Sipo, and the Chief of the Gestapo, Gruppenfuhrer MUELLER had also to stay. MUELLER named a number of leading officials of the Gestapo who had to remain there with him and form the so-called H.Q. Staff. These were in most cases the departmental chiefs as they were in a position to give the best information regarding their respective departments. The entire H.Q. Staff consisted therefore of not more than about 30 people including auxiliary and office employees.

This H.Q. Staff also was unable to find accommodation in which to work owing to day and night air raids on BERLIN. They were finally billeted in the barracks of the Luftlotte "Das Reich" on the Grossen Wannsee near BERLIN, where they were given a large room for office and living accommodation. According to several statements by the Chief of Amt IV it was quite clear that the entire H.Q. Staff would remain in BERLIN even in case it became a battle zone, and in case of emergency it would withdraw to the inner BERLIN defence ring. Finally it would be attached as a fighting unit to the Wehrmacht and sent into action. This plan fell through following an order by the Chief of Amt IV on the afternoon of 21 April 1945 which said that the complete H.Q. Staff should proceed to SCHWERIN-Stepo Station by car. From there they were to find a place in Northern Germany, where they could continue their Stepo work. I should like to emphasize that the various Office chiefs had no files with them and that the remainder had already been burnt at the Wannsee H.Q. Only a few technical documents in connection with the "Nibelungen" scheme were in my possession, about which I will give more details later.

The H.Q. Staff convoy started off in the evening of 21 April 1945, sometimes keeping close together and at other times well separated on account of low flying aircraft. The vehicles arrived at the Gestapo Station in SCHWERIN at 5 a.m. on 22 April and remained until 26th/27th during which time some officials were sent to SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN to find suitable quarters. In SCHWERIN the nominal transformation of the H.Q. Staff into the Northern Group of the RSHA took place. This group included members of all departments arriving in SCHWERIN as time went on and was therefore analogous the Southern Group. SS-Gruppenfuhrer, Generalleutnant der Polizei OHLENDORFF became leader of this Northern Group, and he at that time lived in SCHWERIN. Later he moved to MALENT near EUTIN, and as far as I am aware finally took residence in FLENSBURG. The Stepo sector of this Northern Group was given the following title:- Chef der Sicherheitspolizei und SD Nordgruppe.-IV-

On 26/27th the Northern Group removed to BREIHOLZ, a place north of the KIEL Canal and south of the EIDER. I have no idea whatsoever where the other departments went to.

Accommodation was found in BREIHOLZ School where it stayed from 28th April to 3rd May incl. (SS-Obersturmbannfuhrer Ober-Regierungsrat) \*Lischke was the chief of Northern Group IV at this time. The majority of the members of the Group at that time wanted a dissolution, as according to rumours, the English Army was pushing further north in the neighbourhood of the town of Husum. During the move, which was done in stages owing to the danger of low flying air attack, two cars were shot up and had to be towed.











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Appendix 8

The "Gegonfunkspiel" (Counter Radio "Game") was continued with the English Intelligence Service by using "Mario" from Bozen, but I was never informed as to its extent or result. "Mario" was arrested about December 1944 and the "Gegenspiel" commenced at about the same time. As "Mario" was voluntarily "turned" he was given his freedom.

3) The Use of Russian Agents via Archangel/White Sea, Glasgow/London to Western Germany.

Referat IV A 2b dealt with the use of parachute agents in Germany. Nearly all Russian agents were dropped by Russian aircraft in the Eastern Provinces and also repeatedly in Central Germany. It was therefore something new to find a group of Russian agents in Western Germany and explanation as to why they had not been caught by the well organized Observer Corps could be given at first. On arrest or after giving themselves up - I think there were three groups - it was learned that they had not been dropped by Russian planes but by English long-distance bombers coming from England. They had left the Soviet Union via Archangel in ships to Glasgow and were then sent on to London. They never came in contact with the English Intelligence Service at all but were received and looked after by representatives of the Soviet Embassy in London. They were taken to their respective destinations by English Bombers going to Germany. I recall a case in which two agents were torpedoed on the way from Archangel to England. The ship was lost, together with their equipment, and what was of most importance, their radio equipment. This was replaced in England but their mission in Germany was consequently delayed. A "Gegenspiel" was started by the Stapo-Regional Control Bureau (Abussendienststelle) in Trier by using one of these groups against the Soviet Intelligence Service. This did not last long, as the demands for military material from the Rhine-Ruhr district were so high that they could not be satisfied against the Soviet Union. The Soviet Intelligence Service categorically demanded that this Group in all circumstances should make use of people in the Ruhr District who had communistic leanings. The Russian view was that there should be a considerable number of such people amongst the masses of German workers in that area. Actually the communist movement during the war in the mining areas of the Ruhr was extremely small (as seen from the Stapo point of view). Moscow always argued against this. I believe that I can say with certainty that the above mentioned parachute landings were the only ones in Western Germany carried out by the Russians as otherwise the buried parachutes and other objects at least would have been found by the Gendarmerie, Landwacht and other organisations used in this work.

4) Further details about the Soviet Espionage Organisation "Rote Kapelle" in France and Belgium.

See also pages 37.38.39 and 57.

The penetration into the "Rote Kapelle" movement in Belgium was only possible through the technical radio plotting by Orpo Supervision Prozess of a Soviet station in Brussels. On raiding the Station, Hermann Wenzel who had been known since 1933 as a very active Communist Official was arrested. He was a good wireless signaller and also member of a Soviet Intelligence Group in Belgium. After "turning" him the "game" with the NKVD Intelligence Service was continued. He was given more trust as the "game" went on so that finally he succeeded in escaping. His trace was later picked up again in Holland but he was not caught.

*Wichtig in Rote Kapelle material*

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