

OK-633-1012

Attachment C
EGMA 10556

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24 March 1954

Subject : East-European Movement for a United Europe, and German Political Circles

Date Received : As noted

Sources : 1-A-3 and 4-C-2

Sub-Source : As noted

A. In early March a certain ^{Levy} KONRADI (or KONRADI) called upon (Dr.) Friedrich ROEDER in MUNICH, by order of (Professor) Gerhard von MENDE from the Office for Homeless Foreigners in DUESSELDORF. KONRADI talked with ROEDER about the East-European Movement for a United Europe, and mentioned to him the opinion prevalent in von MENDE's office regarding this organization. The individual points of this opinion, as reported to Source by ROEDER, are as follows:

1. The East-European Movement does not belong to the politically important and large organizations (It was inferred from ROEDER's outlines that the office of Dr. MENDE includes the ABN, for example, among the important and large organizations).
2. The said office will first watch the development of the East-European Movement before defining concretely its attitude toward the organization. So far, it has supposedly not been ascertained whether the organization is Germanophile or Germanophobe.
3. As to the composition of the Movement's council, KONRADI expressed the following opinions:
 - a. The Bulgarian representatives in the Council (Toscho DAMYANOV, Michael MISCHAIKOV and Evgenij SILLANOV) are politically "small people". A really "great" Bulgarian in political respect is believed to be (Dr.) Dimitar WALTSCHEY for example.
 - b. The representatives of the CSR, Osvald KOSTRBA-SKALICKY, Dr. Karel BELAK and Dr. Jaroslav PECHACEK, are BENESE-adherents, and therefore politically suspect from the German point-of-view.
 - c. The office of Prof. MENDE misses the presence of national-Slovak representatives in the council.

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- d. The Baltic sector - Estonians, Latvians and Lithuanians - is strongly and well represented.
 - e. In the opinion of von MENDE's office, Rumanian General Jon GHEORGHE is francophile, and therefore, from the German angle, must be viewed with certain caution.
 - f. Hungarian General HENNYEY is valued by the office very favorably. He is considered to be half a German anyway (Transylvanian Saxon) who merely has a Hungarianized name.
 - g. Yugoslav Dr. Branko BEGOVIC must be viewed with certain caution for the time being. An uncle of his was supposedly the notorious APIS who in 1914 plotted the murder of Arch-Duke Franz Ferdinand in SERAJEVO (the murder was the reason for the outbreak of World War I).
 - h. Von MENDE's office also misses the presence of Croatian representatives in the council.
- B. 4-A-3 reported on 4 March 1954, that he has learned that Prof. Gerhard von MENDE has initiated the collecting of information on the East-European Movement. In circles around Professor von MENDE, the following apprehensions were expressed about the Movement:
- 1. That the organization may embrace anti-German tendencies;
 - 2. That its political line may have "leftist" trends.
- The first apprehension is attributed to the fact that numerous "pro-American" East-European politicians participate in the Movement. The second apprehension is derived from the trip to YUGOSLAVIA of Vasile DUMITRESCU who for the time being holds the position of secretary general of the Movement.
- C. In a bus of the Bulgarian colony in MUNICH, Toscho DAMYANOV and 1-A-3 went on 9 January 1954 to STUTTGART to attend a Bulgarian Christmas celebration. In STUTTGART, they conferred with Ludwig JAKOBSON who told them the following:
- 1. Around New Year, Professor Gerhard von MENDE, head of the Office for Homeless Foreigners in DUESSELDORF, wrote a letter to Sub-Source in which he asked him for information about the East-European Movement for a United Europe. Sub-Source answered von MENDE that the organization pursues the aim to propagate the European idea among the East-Europeans and to promote the East-Europeans' cooperation with similar circles of the European Movement in Western Europe. Also,

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that the organization is not anti-German or directed against the interests of the German Landsmannschaften, but that the Movement will make attempts to cooperate in solutions which will meet both the East-European and the German interests.

2. In early January, Bundestag delegate Axel de VRIES (FDP, German-Baltic Landsmannschaft organization) and von ESEBECK (HAMBURG), representative of the East-Prussian Landsmannschaft, visited the Baltic Council to inquire whether or not the Baltic Council planned any political steps in the face of the BERLIN Conference. The visitors said that, should the Western Powers, at the conference with the Soviets, make concessions regarding Eastern Europe including the Eastern parts of GERMANY, the interests of the East-European refugees would be as much at stake as those of the German expellees. They also said that the Landsmannschaft organizations intended to send memoranda to the Western Powers and to hold press conferences on the occasion of the BERLIN Talks. The visitors wanted to suggest that the Baltic Council and, if possible, larger groups of East-Europeans, take similar steps. Referred to the existence of the East-European Movement for a United Europe, de VRIES and ESEBECK stated that the Landsmannschaft organizations would hail any political actions by the East-European Movement in the face of the Foreign Ministers' Conference.

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