

VIA: ATR
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

SECURITY INFORMATION

DISPATCH NO. EGL-A-3418

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

DATE: 24 APR. 1953

TO : Chief, EE
FROM : Chief of Base, Pullach
SUBJECT: GENERAL— Operational

Info: COM

SPECIFIC— KRIECHBAUM, Wilhelm (correct spelling KRICHAUM)

Reference: PULL-5344

1. After discussions with [] we have recommended to 34 that subject be relieved of his SATURN assignment and placed elsewhere in ZIPPER. Although evidence currently available indicates that subject was at most an unwitting informant of Kurt PONGER, the mere fact of his association with PONGER over a considerable period of time in our opinion disqualifies him for SATURN employment. In addition we have had an opportunity to evaluate subject personally and professionally since his transfer to 34 a year ago. Personally, he is an affable, shrewd, soft-spoken individual who displays symptoms of a creeping senility. He is in poor physical condition attributable primarily to a serious shoulder and chest wound suffered during WW II which affected his heart. His condition requires close medical attention and regular dosages of cardiac tonics. Professionally, and with due credit to his WWII career as chief of the Wehrmacht Geheimefeldpolizei, his performance has been mediocre. It is our understanding that he was relieved of his position as chief BV BAYERN, GV "L" because of his incompetence. At 34, he has been relegated to handling relatively simple CI cases for which he appears to have neither the patience nor interest. He is also called upon to assist in training staff personnel but the lectures we have heard have been singularly uninspired and devoted largely to fond reminiscences of the "olde days".

2. 34 accepted our recommendation with visible relief as if we had confirmed his own opinion. He promised to take the matter up with MERKER as soon as possible.

3. We took the opportunity to protest generally against the use of 34 as a pasture for war wearies, bunglers and has-beens. In addition to subject, another notable example is GWERNER, formerly BROTH, chief of BV 25. It would seem that such persons could be fitted in elsewhere in research or operational analysis jobs where they could still make a contribution without hampering current operations.

Approved: []

DIST:

3 - EE
3 - COM

FORM NO. MAR. 1949

51-28A 23 Apr. 1953

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