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Anti-Communist Movement in Germany

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Since 1945/46 already exist in Germany several groups of anti-communist elements. It was a natural thing that ex-soldiers of the Wehrmacht and the SS after coming back from prison or concentration-camps contacted their old officers and comrades with whom they had fought together for years. These contacts had had in the first moment no political aim but were made only on the basis of personal acquaintance. Slowly, however, some high officers held it necessary to organize all these elements in some way, not as a clandestine movement but as a kind of anti-communist legion, ready to fight Bolshevism, at the moment by intelligence work, and in the case of another war with arms.

The setting up of such a network naturally cost money, and the leader of these groups went to the Anglo-American authorities in Germany asking for material aid. He, as for instance, SS-Generals STINER and RAUSSEL so hoping that the Anglo-Americans must have the greatest interest in such a gathering of active elements received, however, a negative answer, at least in the first time.

A similar development as in the members of the SS was to be observed in the Wehrmacht. Here it was the famous General GUDERIAN who gathered around him officers and soldiers, decided to fight the communist danger in Germany and all of Europe.

The fact now, that the intelligence-officers of every military unit (the Waffen-SS as well as the Wehrmacht) must be a man of the SS/SD explains that the first elements of the SD entered the groups of STINER, GUDERIAN and so on and brought with them a long experience in intelligence work. One of the first things they did was to look for able elements of their ex-service (especially officers of the "Office VI" of the SD) and of institutions of the army and national-socialist party.

At this moment began an important new development: many of the best personalities, able and decided to work in the anti-communist front, were still in prison and in camps. A group of twenty or thirty men liberated the first important man, HANLUF LAUTEBACHER. LAUTEBACHER had been the substitute (staff-chief) of the Hitler-Youth leader AULAN, and was later on the Gauleiter of the Province of Hannover. LAUTEBACHER is known as a very active man and an excellent organizer. After having escaped, (he lived for three days hidden in a cottage in the forest near Stuttgart, where he received false documents) LAUTEBACHER began at once to work and to contact the leaders of the different groups. He had a long meeting with General GUDERIAN who agreed that LAUTEBACHER as a political man make himself the leader of the different groups. There had not existed until that time (LAUTEBACHER's liberation) any close contact between these two.

LAUTEBACHER's original idea was to "conserve" for the future the best national-socialists and enemies of the Soviets. His plan was to bring these persons from Germany (where they had to fear the de-nazification) into other countries, especially to Spain. One of his collaborators was from the first moment his own brother HANS LAUTEBACHER, who also had been one of that group liberating HANLUF. When HANLUF was "staff-chief" of the Hitler-Youth, also HANS had a very important position: he had the direct contacts with the national youth organizations in all Europe, from Norway to Italy and down to

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gain. These contacts partly exist still today, also if only at the moment on the basis of personal friendships.

HANS LAUTERBACHER works for the American TIB; and receives money from this office. A part of this money (paid in dollars) he gives to his brother HARTMUT, who perhaps does not work directly for the TIB, naturally knows his brother's contacts. HANS has some elements working for him, for instance the ex-SS captain MAJAL of the SS (office VI; group leader Dr. HOSTEL). MAJAL wrote a report for HANS about the actual situation on the Balkans; for this work he received false personal documents from the TIB through HANS LAUTERBACHER. It is not sure, but very probable that the TIB knows that MAJAL works for HANS LAUTERBACHER.

When Dr. HOSTEL began to work for the CIC/Austria (April 1946) the group "Lauterbacher" knew it at once. They warned a collaborator of Dr. HOSTEL not to go with this man, considered by them as a traitor because of his activity in the last months of the war (contacts with the Americans). This collaborator of HOSTEL is the ex-SS Colonel KOVARIK who now leads in Gmunden the section "Austria" for the CIC (via HOSTEL). KOVARIK met with HANS LAUTERBACHER at the German-Austrian border and defended HOSTEL and his actual activity. The brothers LAUTERBACHER and Col. KOVARIK also are close friends from years back. KOVARIK had been an important personality of the Hitler-Youth. After this meeting, HANS LAUTERBACHER agreed that KOVARIK continues to collaborate with HOSTEL. This is the actual situation of the "Group Lauterbacher".

After having contacted the leaders of the different groups (GUELLAN and so on) HARTMUT LAUTERBACHER himself went clandestinely to Rome where he actually lives as "Walter DETERING". In Rome he contacted the German-Austrian bishop, EDAL, who in whole Europe is known as a Nationalist and an anti-Communist. HARTMUT met also the German ex-Colonel FRIEDE, who sits in the "Germanicum", a Vatican institute for German Jesuits. FRIEDE organizes (with SS-Col. BIEL and SS-Col. RAUFF) the sending of Germans into the army of the independent state of Syria. From the Italians HARTMUT LAUTERBACHER is in contact with the very rich family of RICCI. RICCI was during Fascism the chief of the Fascist Youth-organization. He is still in prison but perhaps he will be arrested, and many Italians see in him "the coming man". It is worth to be mentioned that RICCI was one of the few Italians who had a good reputation among the Germans; his fact may become important in the future more or less clandestine collaboration between German National-Socialists and Italian Fascists (LAUTERBACHER-RICCI).

Finally the Ambassador of Argentina in Rome offered Hartmut LAUTERBACHER to go for some time to Argentina to look for the possibilities of bringing Germans, German firms and factories to Argentina for work.

Seeing all the possibilities, Hartmut LAUTERBACHER changed his mind and decided not to continue his voyage to Spain but to remain in Rome. About 15 days ago also Hans LAUTERBACHER arrived in Rome (with a third person, a certain "POLDI", wanted by the Austrian government for suspected political murder). Hans is expected back in three days in Austria (he will contact KOVARIK in Gmunden..)

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It is not yet exactly known what kind of information or instructions Hartmut LAUTERBACHER brought through his brother but the intentions are the following as already described above:

- a. To unify the now isolated anti-communist groups in Germany and Austria under Hartmut LAUTERBACHER's leadership.
- b. Anti-communist information network with the aid of the Vatican in collaboration with Bishop RUJAL in Rome.
- c. To conserve Germans living in danger by sending them to Syria through Col. FRIEDE from the "Germanicum" in Rome.
- d. German-Italian collaboration through the ex-Fascist Youth-leader RICCI in Rome.
- e. German-Argentina collaboration through the Argentine Ambassador in Rome.

Since the liberation of Hartmut LAUTERBACHER there have been liberated in the same manner: UBERREITER, Gauleiter of Stiermark Austria and Franz HOFER, Gauleiter of South-Tirol. HOFER, perhaps is already in Rome where lives his daughter, Elizabeth. Also UBERREITER is expected to arrive in Rome.

The "Movement Lauterbacher" is the only one in Germany and Austria with a real political importance.

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