

Excerpts from Bundestag Debate on Social Democratic Interpellation
regarding the Secret Organization "Technical Service of the German

Youth League" (B.D.G.), October 23, 1952
Translated from the official stenographic record)

From speech by Dr. Menzel, S.P.D. member of the Bundestag:

"Originally, authoritative circles in the State Department in Washington declared impossible the participation of any agent of the U.S. Government. Probably, this was the wrong Department. If the question had been addressed to the War Department the answer, if there had been any, would probably have been a different one. For it became known very soon that some civilian U.S. agencies stationed in Germany had been bypassed by American military agencies. That this had not been discovered earlier, is the more surprising as, according to what I have learned only these days, the American magazine News Week reported as early as on July 2 1952, that detachments of partisans were trained in Germany.

IT is appalling to find that the military are the same in all countries -- politically inexperienced and rather irresponsible...

"The Americans who gave more than 50,000 DMark per month, lost as a result of this 'business' much more than that money, they lost a large part of their prestige in Germany and they apparently want to continue along this road, if it is true what has been reported from Wiesbaden, namely that the Joint German-American Committee of Investigation ended in a failure because the Americans asked for unacceptable conditions. These conditions were that those members of the Secret Technical Service who cooperated with Americans were not to be questioned by Germans but solely by Americans, that records of testimony were not to be made available to Germans and, above all, should remain secret. Apparently, there are many things that have to be kept hidden..."

From speech by August Zinn, Prime Minister of the Land Hessen:

"The report circulated by the American News Agency U.P. to the

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effect that a competent Federal Authority -- allegedly a member of the Office for Defense of the Federal Constitution -- stated that the session of this American-German Committee had not been interrupted, is not true. The German-American Committee has not met since October 10, 1952, but not because we refused to give the American member the seized documents. What actually happened is this: The leader of this secret organization removed a portion of the existing secret material -- about 200 folders -- before Hessen took action. Other portions of the material he handed over to the American agencies in question. Later, the chairman of the (German-American) Committee of Investigation told me in the evening hours of October 10 that the Americans should not only have an opportunity to see the seized evidence, but wanted to take it with them for study.

"It is true that we objected to this demand, particularly since the promise given to me to submit the secret material held by the Americans had not been kept up to that time.

"The representative of the HICOG stated that he hopes that we would eventually get it, but that probably a portion of it had been destroyed.

"In addition, I was told that it was intended to interrupt the sessions because a Washington lawyer, Mr. Gaines, was to be flown to Germany and because the further procedure was to be discussed with me. We supposed that the Committee would continue its work on Monday, October 14. To date, it has not been able to resume its work. So much regarding the statement by High Commissioner Donnelly, who, in this respect, has not been correctly informed."