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REF-709

20 December 1954

SUBJECT: Possible Withdrawal of Joachim Litzmann from the Centro Europeo of Buenos Aires.

1. The ~~Centro Europeo~~ ^{Argentine} of Buenos Aires was founded about 1952 by former Vice-Admiral Joachim Litzmann. This group is composed chiefly of former German soldiers living in Argentina, including those who fled to South America under false names, as well as other European nationals who were formerly volunteer members of the Waffen SS. It is estimated that approximately two-thirds of the members of the Centro Europeo were formerly connected with the Waffen SS.

2. Speakers for the Centro Europeo include Friedl Buth, formerly of the Wiesbaden police, Robert Seil, and William Sluyse, former Dutch SS volunteer. Sluyse is the author of Open Letter to General Eisenhower and of the book Juenger and die Dirnen, both of which were published by the ^{FIRM} Duerer Verlag of Buenos Aires. - ^{Argentina}

3. Former Admiral Litzmann is now in sharp disagreement with the majority of the members of the Centro Europeo. Litzmann is attempting to take up contact once again with West Germany with a view to returning to his native land, and he has stated at Centro Europeo meetings that he is opposed to the large SS membership of this group. Litzmann reportedly intends to discuss this matter with Hans-Ulrich Rudel, and then it is believed that Litzmann and the SS group will separate. This separation will probably take the form of Litzmann's withdrawal from the Centro Europeo.

1. Source Comment: The book firm of Das Reich im Buch, owned by W. Breinlinger of ^{Germany} Berchtesgaden, is the West German distributor for publications of the Duerer Verlag. These publications include the periodical Der Weg and the book entitled Reichsverraeter by (Professor) von Weers.

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