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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2002 2008

1P

VIA AIR  
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DISPATCH NO. NECA 5428

CONFIDENTIAL  
CLASSIFICATION

19 SEP 1956  
DATE 18 September 1956

TO Chief, NEA

FROM [ ]

SUBJECT { GENERAL - Operational/PSYCH  
SPECIFIC - Dr. Johann von LEERS

MICROFILMED  
JUL 20 1962  
DOC. MICRO. SER.

REFERENCES: DIR 28463, [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

1. Based on the Time magazine article which described the departure from Cairo of the Toronto Star correspondent, William "Steve" Stevenson, KITTERIDGE was able to induce 'Abd-al-Meguid/AMIN on 12 September to discuss somewhat Dr. Johann von LEERS.

2. AMIN said that he (AMIN) was responsible for the GOE's having invited von LEERS to Egypt from South America, being partially motivated by a desire to assist a fellow "Landsmann." AMIN said the GOE extended the invitation to von LEERS because it wished to use his anti-Semitic background and experience in the organization and strengthening of its anti-Israeli propaganda program. AMIN said "Dr." von LEERS is a friend of long-standing and a sincere friend of Islam, thus his recommending von LEERS for his post as adviser to the Information Department of the Ministry of National Guidance. (Headquarters should keep in mind always that (Colonel)/HATEM Information Department is charged with the undertaking of a worldwide propaganda scheme to further the Arab cause. One significance of this effort will be described in a subsequent dispatch.)

3. AMIN says that unfortunately von LEERS is not working out too well as an adviser, and may not last more than a few months in this capacity, thereafter hoping to teach German language locally. (This may be an attempt by AMIN to gloss over the significance of the von LEERS presence in Cairo which, unfortunately perhaps, received unsought publicity by Stevenson inter alia.) AMIN said Stevenson deserved to be kicked out of Egypt, for he overlooked, like so many other Westerners, the really serious side of the turmoil in the Arab world today, in favor of journalistic sensationalism.

4. HEADQUARTERS ACTION REQUESTED. Please pouch copy of translation of von LEERS' article mentioned in [ ] [ ] [ ]

Distribution:  
5 - Headquarters  
3 - [ ]

INDEX

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MAR. 1949

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