

AIP

CG-A-2117

Chief, FF

18 December 1952

Chief, Berlin Operations Base

Operational/REDCAP

Discontinuance of CAUTERY Chain

Synopsis: CAUTERYs 1 and 4 given notice of termination to be effective 16 January 1953 in the case of C-1, and 13 February 1953 for C-4. Method of dissolution for this operation. Possible future use for C-1 and/or C-4.

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Action Required: COM will please notify the proper HICOG offices in Bonn, requesting them to take the necessary administrative action to terminate our agreement with them, and in turn, theirs with CAUTERY 1. They are to be told that subject was informed of his termination on or about 1 December, so the six week notification requirement has been fulfilled, although informally.

1. We have been keeping a careful (and hopeful) eye on the CAUTERYs for some time now, with the expectation that one or another of the various schemes they have tried to develop would come through. Finally, the time has come to abandon the hope, at least as far as REDCAP is directly and immediately concerned. One after another, their potential contacts have fallen down, until they are now left with one good lead into a Germans booking agency that may pay off in the future, mainly in terms of operational cover and support. We feel that this one prospect neither needs nor justifies the time and money at present being put into the case. The final blow fell when CAUTERY 1 refused [] proposal that he help out in the campaign to clean up [] C-1 was therefore told that during a routine re-appraisal and reorganization the axe had fallen on his slot, and that after a tapering off period, both he and his assistant C-4 would be looking for a job.

2. After this notification, we arranged another meeting for C-1 with [] but the latter informs that he sees no prospect of reaching a basic agreement with CAUTERY 1. We have therefore sent the letter to Bonn, in order to give him a chance to unravel his pension application, which is now pending on the basis of his long period of government service before and during the war. In addition, [] has indicated to C-1 that we are still looking for a slot for

Approved by:

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both of them, and that in any event, we would like to keep them on our list as "consulting experts" for any particular occasion that might come up to make their experience and reliability of value on a spot basis. To this both consented.

3. If we find no permanent employment for them (and we do not expect to), we plan to discharge them both, without prejudice, and place them under the [] Project, to enable us to maintain contact from time to time. Their discharge will also, unless specifically disapproved, include a separation bonus to C-1 of 500 DMW (fifteen days pay), and a similar payment of 350 DMW (thirty days pay) to C-4.

4. Our only chance to place them at the moment would be as interrogators in connection with a []-like project to gain REDCAP information and leads from IBCs (Germans) into Berlin. We are now setting up a program of this sort, cooperating with CIG and MID. If our program should become massive enough to warrant some more direct attack than liaison with US agencies, we might be able to employ the CAUTERYS as interrogators, on a lower level than that to which they are now accustomed. If this should materialize, we will incorporate it in a separate request.

5. Our main effort during the time left before dissolving the CAUTERY Chain will be spent in exploiting the one possible lead mentioned in paragraph 1 above. All other contacts will be gradually dropped, after arrangements have been made in several cases for recontacting by us at some future date.

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