

HANS MERZ.

S.I.M.S. REPORT NO. 6.

(Continued from Reports Nos. 4 & 5)

F. POLISH SECRET ORGANISATIONS IN POLAND.

(According to MERZ.)

36. Delegatura R.P. (Recozyjnospolitej Polski)

A secret rump parliament, under the leadership of a Delegat who is appointed by the Polish Government in LONDON. Theoretically all parties are represented in it and elect representatives to it. In fact several of the strongest parties and secret societies are not members of it, such as N.I.P., O.N.R., Z.N.Z. The four main parties represented in it are:

(a) S.N. (Stronnictwo Narodowe = National Party), or National Democrats, according to MERZ.

(Note: According to a Polish Source this party is an offshoot of O.N.R., most of the older members leaving O.N.R. and forming this group. Former chief was DUBOWSKI, now BIEBICKI, who was formerly in O.N.R.)

(b) PAKIJJA PRACJA (Labour Party, or, according to MERZ, Christian Socialist Party.) PADMEWESKI, HALLER and STOKREKI belonged to it.

(c) P.P.S. (Polaka Partja Socjalistyczna = Polish Socialist Party).

(d) S.L. (STRONNICTWO LUDOWE = People's or Peasant Party). Leader Prof. KOT, now in LONDON.

37. MERZ heard from Komandeur SPILGER of WARSAW SIPO that he has many agents in the Delegatura and that copies of all orders and messages sent to it from the Polish Government in LONDON are immediately transmitted to the SIPO SANDERKOLANDO in WARSAW.

38. L.S.P. (LIECIE I PLOG = Sword and Plough), not represented in Delegatura. Apparently a vast organisation with branches all over Poland.

39. MERZ knows more about this party than about others because much of his work in Poland was connected with it and he learned to know intimately several of the leaders. The party was to be used by AMI VI to establish contact with Polish HQs, M.O. Six of the leaders were executed, with the approval of the Delegatura, and three SIPO appointees were substituted.

40. Among the previous leaders were ANDRZEJ, Chief of the Party, Dr. GRAD, and "MARIAN", chief of the military branch. They aimed at collaboration with the Germans against their common enemy, Russia. A truce was signed in 1942 but partially broken by both the Germans and N.I.P. It is hoped that their Party would be not only the main political but also the greatest military power in Poland.

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HANS MERZ

10/15/44

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41. The new SIPO-backed leaders, according to MERZ, are:
- (a) OLLEK (ALEXANDER), Chief of the Party. Hopes to become member of the Delegatura. Obtained approval of Delegatura for his predecessors' execution.
  - (b) ANTEK, an engineer who was a student at an American University. Had previously been a district leader of N.I.P. near KIELCE, where MERZ made his acquaintance.
  - (c) Stefan MAJCHEREK, ex-Communist, with nine years in Polish prisons. Now a wealthy business man in WARSAW, SIPO agent and agent provocateur, Polish friend and collaborator of MERZ.

42. Lechia (ZALASKI-ALMI-RODZIMSKI = League for Armed Resistance, or Polish Military League.)

This league is a continuation of the Polish army and contains only former members of the armed forces and young men who are being secretly trained. Its aims are non-political, though its leaders have become involved in political schemes from time to time.

43. MERZ knows of Z.w.Z.'s political aims through contact with two of its officers, Lt. PODKOJBEKI and Col. ALBRECHT in 1940 and 1941. Both of them were involved in negotiations with the Germans for a truce.

44. General ROZDRAKI, Chief of Z.w.Z., was arrested at the end of July (?) 1943 and flown to BERLIN. MERZ does not know who has replaced him. Early in 1940 Col. PILLONCZYK was Chief of Z.w.Z. in Southern Poland. It is not known whether he still holds that post. Also in 1940 Major MODRZYNSKI was chief of a large branch of Z.w.Z. probably in WARSAW.

45. O.N.R. (Obóz-Narodowo-Radykalny = National Radical Camp.)

MERZ first gave the word Organizacja for Obóz. According to MERZ this party has a wholly negative platform, i.e. fight against, and destruction of, communism. MERZ knows and has had dealings only with two of its leaders.

46. Chief of Party: "VICTOR" (=Prof. GÖBEL, formerly of ROSEN or POLJUN University).

Chief of the Intelligence (Nachrichten) Section: WITOLD, whom MERZ first contacted in WARSAW in Dec. 1941 and saw last in 1943.

47. O.N.R. came to an agreement with SIPO, some members were released from concentration camps, and as far as MERZ knows, it is the only secret organization in Poland which has not been in any trouble with SIPO since. SPILKNER, of WARSAW SIPO, in October 1943, gave MERZ the impression that O.N.R. were collaborating with his SONDERSKOLECZKO, especially WITOLD.

2. AGREEMENTS BETWEEN POLISH SECRET ORGANISATIONS

AND SIPO FOR A NEW POLAND.

48. Reliability of MERZ's Statements on this Topic.

MERZ has been cross-examined on this part of his story and has shifted his ground several times. No two versions of the various agreements were entirely alike, therefore only statements made repeatedly in the same form are given below. He knows best the agreements planned between SIPO and M.I.P. because with them he had a larger share in the preparatory work than with other secret organisations.

49. SIPO Attitude to Agreements.

According to MERZ there were, and possibly still are, two camps in SIPO and higher up, amongst those directly and indirectly concerned with Polish problems. One group is in favour of reaching an understanding with the Poles in order to gain an ally against the Russians before the expected invasion of Poland. This first group, therefore, approves of the various agreements with so-called secret societies, all of them well-known to the Germans and some thoroughly penetrated by them. Amongst these German officials are Gouverneur FRANK of the Generalgouvernement POLSKY, and DOUBLER (BOHLER), Chief of the Fuhrer's Chancellery. The second group distrusts all Poles and fears that, though they may fight the common enemy, Russia, with or under the Germans, they will ultimately unite PILSUDSKI and, after repelling the Russians, turn to the west and so on. This second, at present much larger and more influential, group, is headed by Herr Heinrich HINGLER, Amtschef (General) MILLER, O.C. AMT IV, ~~SPANNUNG~~, chief of SIPO for Poland, at CRACOW (it was he who warned HINGLER that the Polish organisations were not strong enough to rule Poland and that the Poles would, like PILSUDSKI, eventually fight the Germans once more), and Kommandeur BEILKE, of SIPO SONDERKOMMANDO WARSAW and liquidator of six leaders of M.I.P. Outside these two camps are a few who seem to be sitting on the fence, not knowing whether to jump, including HITLER, DEMLING, O.C. AMT IV D 2 (the SIPO department in charge of the Generalgouvernement POLSKY) and LILJAND, SIPO KOMMANDEUR in the RADOM District.

MERZ, an insignificant factor in this political chess game, is most insistent that he himself belongs to the first group and adduces as proof his work in helping to conclude some of these agreements. He finds it difficult, however, to explain away his close associations with Stefan MAJCHERAK.

50. PILSUDSKI's "Drang nach Osten".

As a fervent adherent of PILSUDSKI, Dr. GRAD was intensely anti-Communist or anti-Bolshevik. He has this background in common with General ANDERS, an old PILSUDSKI man, the latter being reputed to be more definitely opposed to the attitude of the Polish Government in London towards Bolsheviks than GRAD. Moreover ANDERS, as a staunch Protestant, would not favour the policy of the preponderantly Roman Catholic Polish Government, according to what GRAD told MERZ. This explains why GRAD and the Germans thought that ANDERS would fall in with their plans. Both GRAD and ANDERS, according to MERZ, believe in Pilsudski's original theory of a "Drang nach Osten" for Poland, with KIEV as the natural capital, not WARSAW. MERZ believes that the NAZI leaders are heartily in favour of PILSUDSKI's original last war's scheme for a new-born Poland.

51. Principal Points of the Agreements with M.I.P. (According to Merz.)

(For details of negotiations with M.I.P. and other organisations see previous chapters, especially E.)

(a) Concessions made to the Germans by M.I.P.

- (1) Renounce all claims to the western part of Poland

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incorporated in the Reich, but not to the General-gouvernement POLSK.

- (ii) WARSAW no longer to be the capital, though still remaining just inside New Poland, and the seat of government to be transferred to LUBLIN.

(Note: This part of the agreement was broken by HITLER in early 1943 by the settlement of Germans in the LUBLIN area, meeting with armed resistance from M.I.P. bands.)

- (iii) Carry on vigorous propaganda against the Russians and Communists, especially in the "illegal" press of M.I.P.
- (iv) Stop all sabotage in Poland. Carry on propaganda against it on the grounds that it is encouraged in Poland only by the Bolsheviks who know that acts of sabotage result in severe German reprisals, and that these activities merely play into the hands of the Russians by sacrificing needlessly Polish lives and property which could be used to fight the Bolsheviks.
- (v) Cease all armed warfare against the Germans in any form (e.g. during the collection of grain)
- (vi) Carry on propaganda for enlistment in a new Polish Army which is to fight with the Germans and under German leadership the common enemy, Russia.
- (Note: At first BRZEM maintained that no mention was made of the Polish forces in M.E. Later he admitted that GRAD was to ask ANDERS to have Polish airmen fly Polish officers and money for the New Polish Army from the Middle East to landing grounds near BUSKOP, "South of KIELCE or North of CRACOW.")
- (vii) Dr. GRAD to contact personally General ANDERS in M.E. and present to him the new viewpoint in Poland, viz. that now that Russia, and no longer Germany, is Enemy No. 1, and that the Polish people would oppose a Russian invasion by force of arms. To ascertain whether German intelligence was correct in assuming that a rift exists between the Poles in M.E. and the Polish Government in LONDON on the Russian question. To try to persuade the Poles in M.E. to lay down their arms (although BRZEM did not believe that the Poles in M.E. would go so far as to fight the Russians). To have ANDERS send Polish officers from M.E. to Poland for the new Polish Army.

(Note: GRAD's mission was vetoed by HITLER, on advice of MÜLLER, C.O. AMT IV and S.S. Standartenführer (= Col.) SCHÖNGARTEN of CRACOW, Chief of SIPO in Poland. Later the plan was, however, resuscitated by AMT VI - C.O. S.S. Oberrührer, or Major General, SCHELEBERG - through MURKING and KYLITZ, the latter two BRZEM's friends.)

(b) Concessions made by Germans to M.I.P.

- (i) To return to Poland, after the war, all of the eastern portion occupied by the Russians in 1939.
- (ii) To compensate Poland for the loss of the Western portion ceded to and incorporated in the German Reich by allotting to her parts of Russian Galicia, of the Ukraine and of White Russia, north of the PRIPET Marshes.

(Note: BRZEM does not remember the exact limits of the territory to be gained from Russia by Poland.)

- (iii) M.i.P. to be recognized as chief political and, eventually, also as chief military organization in Poland, though, for purposes of camouflage, officially or publicly still to be treated as illegal and secret.
- (iv) No members of M.i.P. to be arrested in the Generalgouvernement for carrying on work for the "secret" organization.

(Note: Kommandeur SPILKER of the WARSAW GIPG made this part of the programme operative by issuing an order to his GIPG men that no M.i.P. members were to be arrested in his district.)

- (v) The "illegal" M.i.P. press to be tolerated, in return for carrying on propaganda agreeable to the Germans.

(Note: GRUB, the principal Polish architect of this agreement, had once stated to MERZ that he would retire upon the completion of the programme. At other times he expressed the hope that he would be Minister of Foreign Affairs in the new Polish Government.)

#### 52. Agreement with Z.w.Z.

From MERZ's statements it is doubtful whether any definite agreement was reached by Z.w.Z. with the Germans. Col. JONKOWSKI, in summer 1941, was going to propose to the chief of Z.w.Z., General RO MCKI that the Military League refrain from all acts of sabotage and terrorism and that the leaders should collect all arms and hold themselves responsible for them and for the good behaviour of Z.w.Z. members in general. In return the Germans were to allow Z.w.Z. to continue its existence and to release members from concentration camps.

#### 53. Agreement with O.N.R.

A truce was arranged between O.N.R. and SIFG. O.N.R. agreed to combat communism, but nothing or no-one else, in return for which the party was to be tolerated by the Germans and some members in concentration camps to be released. As far as MERZ knows this agreement has been kept by both sides. As late as July 1943 MERZ was informed by SPILKER, in WARSAW, that WITOLD, one of the leaders of the party, was collaborating with him.

### II. PRESENT COLLABORATION BETWEEN POLES AND GERMANS.

54. When asked what he knew about present activities of Poles in collaboration with Germans, aside from those of M.i.P., O.N.R., some members of the Delegatura and occasional Polish agents, MERZ could only make statements based on what he had heard, not on what he knew from personal contact or observation.

55. Former Polish Prime Minister KOLLOWSKI has been in BERLIN for a year, negotiating a deal with the German Foreign Office. No details of the negotiations, nor their exact aims are known to MERZ. He heard that KOLLOWSKI had been in Russia and found his way to Poland and Germany through the German lines.

56. General ROWECKI, the Chief of Z.w.Z., has been mentioned in the ALBRECHT affair. In September 1941 the colonel was going to make proposals to his chief ROWECKI for a truce between Z.w.Z. and the Germans. Nothing further about his activities or contacts seems to have become known to MERZ until July 1943 when ROWECKI was arrested. SPILKER stated that some of the general's own officers had betrayed him. According to the same source the arrest was followed by happenings unprecedented in German-occupied Poland. HIMMLER issued the order to SPILKER to send ROWECKI immediately to BERLIN. The German officers acting as escort had

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to guarantee the safety of ROZNEKI with their own lives. As he was departing, the general said to SPILNER "There is no need to worry, Germany needs me in her fight against the Russians." Another notable feature at ROZNEKI's departure was his large transport A.C., of the type only reserved for the very highest officers and officials, fitted with upholstered seats and "mit allem Komfort". MERZ, basing himself on SPILNER's statements and opinions, gathered that the arrest was merely camouflage and that ROZNEKI was to be used for big plans in Germany, possibly in collaboration with KOWALSKI. In October, however, MERZ did not hear of any further developments in this matter.

I. GERMAN & POLISH AGENTS ABROAD.

57. Up to the present MERZ has denied knowing definitely any names of Poles sent by SIFO or Polish organisations to M.E. as "political" agents. He ventured the opinion that all Polish officers coming to M.E. would be members of Z.v.Z. MERZ claims to know only two centres of AMT VI abroad, WARSAW and ANKARA. He has also been given the name of an agent in ANKARA.

58. AMT VI Directs SIFO Espionage.

In his work as a member of SIFO, MERZ has gained a good insight into the inner workings of agents of that organisation in Poland and Greece. SIFO espionage is directed by AMT VI, this bureau being called Auslandsmachrichtendienst (Foreign Intelligence Service). C.O. of this AMT is H.S. Oberführer (Major General) SCHELLERBERG, the C.O. M.E. Section is Dr. GRAVE or GREVE (Dr. GRAPE of Franz H-YR fame?)

59. Recruitment of Polish Agents.

Sonderkommando SIFO at WARSAW, (not to be confused with SIFO Kommando WARSAW) is SIFO unit for special purposes, directly dependent on the Chief of SIFO for the Generalgouvernement CRUCO. S. HILKA, whom MERZ knows well, is the chief of this WARSAW unit. SPILNER seems to control all secret Polish organisation through his agents. Probably because of his knowledge of likely local material for SIFO espionage, AMT VI sent an Obersturmführer (= Lt.) to SPILNER in April or May 1943 to collaborate with him in the selection of Poles for espionage abroad. Thus, to the many other activities of the SIFO Sonderkommando, was added a recruiting bureau for AMT VI. Candidates are chosen principally from "patriotic" organisations, but some Jews have also been selected. In other words, the choice seems to be limited to groups who have the reputation of being anti-Nazi.

60. Destination and Mission of Polish Candidates.

The candidates are mostly sent to neutral or allied-occupied countries in which there are large colonies of genuine Polish refugees, among those mentioned by MERZ being Spain, Portugal, Turkey (I. TURKIA, ANKARA) and other countries in M.E. The agents are to contact Polish circles in these various countries and gather "political" information.

61. Names of Polish Agents.

MERZ could not remember the name of the lieutenant from AMT VI, + but has given the names and descriptions of a number of Poles selected for work abroad. MERZ met them all with the exception of one of three Jews. Details will be given in the Chapter on Personalities.

+ NOTE :- This Lieut. of AMT VI may be identical with an Obersturmführer, of the Polish Section of AMT VI, who was sent to SPILNER (see para 59).

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SENDER

7.

SEPAUER,  
HEBEERT  
CIT: GERMANY

... was to go to LONDON via STOCKHOLM  
... possibly HELSINKI.

... German from LODZ, had been ensign  
... Polish Army, is now an interpreter in  
... accompany SENZEK as "Polish officer."

... fully dealt with in previous  
... to go to LISBON or MADRID. Probably  
... of all these agents.

... name unknown. Looks like Italian, not  
... given a large amount of dollars. Was  
... via Switzerland.

... name unknown, aged approximately  
... Mounded in Communist fray in  
... months ago. Probable WARSAW address  
...

... no details known.

Details of Office Staff.

The chief of this is the "Polizeiattache" HOSELBARTH  
... during his two stays in ATHENS in  
... 1943. His office is in a one-story building  
... near the Embassy, behind the Protestant  
... usually opens the door. The  
... consists of a Saxon Sekretar, male (see para (b))  
... "interpreter," (see (c) below), and a blond  
... (see (d) below). In this office gather  
... (called Y-men, as in ABWEHR), some of  
... Their activities extend over the entire  
... via the Dodecanese and Turkey.

Details of Office Staff.

HOSELBARTH  
C. ZER  
DoB-C 19

(a) HOSELBARTH, A Saxon from DRESDEN. Pronounced Saxon  
... in German. Polizeiattache in ATHENS, or SIPO  
... Previously GESTAPO or SA official in  
... Hauptsturmfuhrer (Captain). Great  
... of MERZ of AMT II and Dr GRAFE of AMT VI,  
... Reichsicherheitshauptamt. MERZ reported to H. all  
... about KAM and other Greek secret societies,  
... which were immediately passed on to AMT VI.  
... approx 40 years old, height approx  
... cm. Stout. Dark blond or brown hair. Dark  
... Dark eyes and dark, heavy eye-brows.

(b) "Sekretar" (name unknown). Saxon. Description:  
... years old. Height 178 (?) cm. Blond hair, but  
... almost bald. Ruddy complexion. Robust appearance.  
... Heavy-set.

(c) "Interpreter." Greek (name forgotten). Speaks Greek  
... and German, possibly other languages. Description:  
... years old. Height 178 (?) cm. Very slender.  
... face, pointed chin. Blond. Fair complexion.  
... Looks like a Central European.



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(a) Shorthand-Typist (name unknown)  
MIP 210. Girl-friend of Finnish Consul, according to HOSSLEBARTH. Age 23 (?). Height 170(?). Plump appearance. Pale complexion. Blond hair.

63. Reichsbahnverkehrszentrale (State railway Tourist Bureau) ATHENS.

Apparently the former Greek Railways Tourist Bureau. Taken over by AMT VI, ostensibly used as German tourist Bureau, but also as an Anlaufstelle (Reporting Centre) for V-men, or agents of AMT VI, to avoid their being "spotted" at HOSSLEBARTH's office. In the outer office are mostly Greek employees and only two Germans, a very stout, blond, slightly bald man, aged 38/9, with a large nose, and a woman, a "Mitteldeutsche" from the Ukraine (Ukrainian of German extraction).

64. Name and Activities of ATHENS Agents of AMT VI (Full details in one set on Personalities.)

- (a) KIRSTEN (or KIRSTNER). Writes political articles for Deutsche Zeitung fur Griechenland in his spare time. Friend of HOSSLEBARTH at whose office MERZ met him. Expert on ME, where he has lived for many years. Aged 48/50. Height 180(?). Stout. Grey hair.
- (b) PAPPENBROCK, Bruno. A Dutchman, 34/35 years old. Sent to ATHENS from AMT VI. Speaks seven languages, including Dutch, German, French, English, Arabic. Before the war a merchant in ME, for several years in CAIRO. Is to recruit agents for AMT VI as he has many connections in ME. Frequently in WINTERGARTEN Bar, which is out-of-bounds to Germans. MERZ saw him there several times.
- (c) "Sonderfahrer" FRIEDRICH, aged 35/6, who may not be directly employed by AMT VI. Editor of "Der Mann von Hellas" (the man at the oars or sails), the German Naval publication for the Aegean.
- (d) "KOKINOS" (Code name). Greek aged approximately 37. MERZ met him at HOSSLEBARTH's office and was told that this Greek would be sent to ME.
- (e) A "Sonderfahrer" (code name) whom MERZ met in HOSSLEBARTH's office. Age approximately 35, very neat, speaks French, Italian (Athenian dialect), Italian, English, Spanish, Arabic. Had previously worked for the German Consular Service.

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- (c) "A Greek Communist," (Name unknown). Works in a factory. MERZ never met him, but was told by HOSSELBARTH that he had just been recruited as agent for AMT VI.
- (d) A Director of Greek National Broadcasting system. (Name forgotten, but NOT PASOULIS). HOSSELBARTH told MERZ that this director had planted many AMT VI people in the Greek Broadcasting system.
- (j) "Polly" (real name forgotten). Viennese friend of HOSSELBARTH. Has lived in ATHENS for many years. MERZ saw him only once at the office of the Polizei-attaché and knows no other details.

65. ANKARA Agent of AMT VI, Karl ( ) POLZYCH.

Before leaving BERLIN for Turkey, in Oct 43, MERZ was given by AMT VI the name of POLZYCH with the comment that he was a German agent of AMT VI in ANKARA, but that MERZ was to contact him only as a last resort, if he got into serious difficulty. No address or other details were given, but MERZ was told that he would find the name and address in the ANKARA telephone directory. He saw them there and remembers that the Christian is typically German, probably Karl.

J. MERZ's ACTIVITIES, CONTACTS and OBSERVATIONS IN ATHENS.

(a) Introductory Data.

66. Part of the material in this chapter has been presented, though in a different form, in SIME Reports Nos. 1 - 3 on Van der LINDE (real name MERZ). Some details have been added and many statements have been altered as a result of MERZ's confession of German nationality. The ATHENS episode remains the weakest part of his story, and many points will have to be elucidated before the picture can be considered complete. MERZ himself is still confused about facts, especially dates and chronological order of events, and also VANDA's motives for the last-minute change of plans. He has admitted that, though he uncovered many secrets of EAM and ELAS, and of communist and nationalist groups, he still feels uncertain about the true nature of Greek parties and the allegiance of many of the Greeks he contacted. Hellenic craftiness clearly outwitted him. This probably explains the lack of lucidity in this part of his story.

NOTE :- For full details about various names mentioned in this chapter, see chapter on Personalities.

(b) First Visit to ATHENS, with Dr GRAB,  
9/19 July - 24/25 July 44.

67. Arrival in ATHENS.

The first night they spent in Hotel KYPRON, Cassia Square, later in a small hotel in a side street off Cassia Square.

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Immediately upon arrival in ATHENS, MERZ changed  
... on the Black Market, at the rate of 15,000 drs.

GRAB's Contact with the BARUTI family.

GRAB contacted a few people whom he had known  
... sojourn in ATHENS. He first met the daughter  
... This daughter, now married (present name  
... by MERZ) had studied ballet in WARSAW where  
... acquaintance. The lady's husband is the  
... at the Greek National Theatre. He  
... in BERLIN and VIENNA and speaks fluent  
... this married couple GRAB met Mrs and Mr  
... said to be a retired Greek Army officer,  
... Russian emigre, daughter of a Russian "prince."

GRAB's Contact with THEMILIS, Communist, and/or Nationalist.

GRAB and MERZ were introduced by BARUTI, a fervent  
... Michael THEMILIS, who style: himself chief of  
... Group in KAM, which is looked upon by the  
... Communist. THEMILIS knows not only BARUTI  
... with other nationalists and is one of the  
... MERZ could not fathom politically. He speaks  
... having been a merchant in WARSAW for 15 years,  
... to Greece in 1940. Dr HAMPEL revealed to  
... as Dr GRAB, one of the leaders of  
... nationalist organization, Hans MERZ "confessed"  
... was a barabann, Jan Van der LINDE, working for  
... organizations.

*Δ Μαρι &  
D. H. H. H.  
C. H. H. H.*

THEMILIS Agreement to Transport Courier to ME.

THEMILIS asked GRAB and MERZ if they were willing  
... with Greek Communists by pretending to the  
... Polish Communist groups, in order to facilitate  
... to KAM circles, who were to undertake transport  
... courier to Egypt. GRAB at first demurred, for  
... he is violently anti-Communist, but sub-  
... to pose as a Pole with Communist leanings.  
... having had thorough coaching in  
... friend, Stefan MAJCHEREK, an ex-Communist.  
... to dispatch GRAB's courier to Egypt as soon  
... at his ATHENS office. At the time TH.  
... that the courier would be a woman.

GRAB's Plan from M.I.P. and Second Courier.

10 4 - The plan for a second courier to Me, and details  
... about W/T link in ATHENS have come to light  
... since previous chapters were written.  
... (see pages 85, 6, 10).

At a subsequent meeting details were discussed.  
... THEMILIS that he might not be able to bring  
... to ATHENS and that MERZ might deliver "him"  
... office. As soon as the courier had returned  
... to ATHENS, GRAB would hasten down to  
... courier would receive chiefly verbal instruc-  
... to obtain the verbal answers from ME  
... also could contact the courier. THEMILIS  
... message to WARSAW, on a W/T set which  
... from M.I.P. GRAB had planned a

/regular ...

regular W/T service between Polish HQ, ME and M.I.P., but it was to take effect only after the return of the courier, who would have completed definite arrangements with the Poles in ME. GRAD was then going to send a second courier from WARSAW to ME, via ATHENS, and this second messenger would bring to THEMILIS detailed instructions for W/T communications between ATHENS and M.I.P., WARSAW.

(NOTE by IO : \* MERZ was unable to explain why GRAD had to see the courier in ATHENS instead of WARSAW).

72. Telegram to BERLIN.

In order to make doubly certain that the announcement of the first courier's return to ATHENS would reach GRAD, a complicated and slow alternative method of communication was chosen. GRAD had stayed with MERZ at the DOM Hotel, BERLIN, under the assumed name of Dr HAMPPEL. This fact was known to AMT VI. Simultaneously with the short W/T message THEMILIS was to send a telegram to Dr Otto HAMPPEL, DOM Hotel, BERLIN. The hotel porter would send this message immediately to Stefan MAJCHERZAK in WARSAW. GRAD had won the porter over, during previous stays in BERLIN, by gifts of Polish food and schnaps. The message could not be sent directly from ATHENS to WARSAW, because telegraphic communication is forbidden to the Generalgouvernement from territory outside the REICH. The telegram was to contain only a two-word message: "Ware Angekommen" (Merchandise received).

73. Reasons for delayed departure from ATHENS.

As soon as arrangements for the courier had been agreed upon, the real purpose of the first journey to ATHENS had been fulfilled and GRAD and MERZ should have returned to WARSAW and BERLIN. MERZ explained the extension of their stay in ATHENS by the reluctance of GRAD to hazard once more a lengthy journey by troop train, possibly with many changes and delays on the way, as had happened on their voyage from BERLIN to ATHENS. GRAD insisted on flying to SOFIA by LUFTHANSA and taking a direct train from there to VIENNA. MERZ states that it took a long time to obtain tickets and accommodation.

74. FANTOULIS, Communist Leader.

While waiting for tickets, GRAD and MERZ made a few contacts with Greek Communists, to whom they were introduced as Communists, with the exception of Georg FANTOULIS, THEMILIS' cousin. Only these two leaders of Left Wing groups were told that GRAD and MERZ were not Communists. FANTOULIS speaks perfect Polish, for, like his cousin, he had spent many years in Poland and his father is said to be still living in CRACOW. FANTOULIS is employed as broadcaster in the Greek language in the German-controlled Greek State Broadcasting system. He is, at the same time, leader of several Communist groups in PIRAEUS and editor of an "illegal" Communist paper, of which he showed several copies to GRAD and MERZ. This paper bears the emblem of the hammer and sickle.

75. Polish-Greek "Communist" collaboration.

FANTOULIS and GRAD arranged an exchange of messages and articles to their respective organizations, GRAD writing articles for the Greeks as representative of pro-Communist groups in Poland, FANTOULIS addressing his articles to the fellow Communists in Poland. GRAD promised to send with MERZ some Polish Communist propaganda literature to various Greek Communist or pro-Communist circles. A similar collaboration between them was also arranged with another person in Athens.

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76. "Consul" THEMILIS.

GRAD and MERZ met THEMILIS several times more before their departure from ATHENS. As conversations were carried on in Polish, MERZ could not always follow, but GRAD explained to him that they were making plans for the future. Business deals profitable to both were discussed and THEMILIS exacted from GRAD the promise that after the war he should be made Polish Consul. In WARSAW this rank was changed to "Ambassador" for WANDA's benefit, when GRAD told her of her main contact-to-be in ATHENS.

77. HOSELBARTH.

(For details see para 62 above). During this and his subsequent stay in ATHENS MERZ saw HOSELBARTH a number of times and reported to him, and through him to ART VI, the progress made in his work.

78. Anti-Bulverian Demonstration in ATHENS.

About mid-July, possibly later, GRAD and MERZ found all Greek shops, restaurants and bars closed in ATHENS; at the German restaurant "PHILADELPHIA" a German officer told them that the Greeks had declared a general strike and planned a demonstration at the Bulgarian Legation as protest against the Bulgarian march into Greek MACEDONIA. The German and Italian Military would break up this demonstration. Later MERZ heard that shots had been fired and a number of Greeks had been killed.

(c) Second Visit to ATHENS, with WANDA,  
18 Aug 43 - 5 Oct 43.

79. Arrival in ATHENS.

MERZ arrived in ATHENS with 250 dollars given to him by ART VI. WANDA was immediately taken to the BARUTI family who found lodgings for her with Jewish neighbours, refugees from SALONIKA.

80. Wanda and THEMILIS.

Next morning MERZ took WANDA to THEMILIS's office. WANDA addressed the Greek as "Ambassador," which title GRAD had bestowed upon him, for her sake, instead of "Consul-in-aps." THEMILIS took this flattery in his stride, but expressed his surprise at being confronted with a female courier. A male courier he could have smuggled onto a Swedish Red Cross ship sailing from PIRAEUS to the ME on the same day. He regretted WANDA's departure would be delayed for several days. WANDA left all her papers and documents from WARSAW with THEMILIS.

81. WANDA and FANTOULIS.

The following day MERZ and WANDA met at the same office the Communist leader and German-sponsored Greek broadcaster FANTOULIS, who was disappointed because GRAD had not sent the promised Polish Communist papers and pamphlets. He said that this would render their introduction into Greek

/Communist ...

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*S 26 Rue Gladstone  
Athens, Greece*

...difficult and asked MERZ and WANDA  
...the Communists wherever they went with him.  
...had turned over to FANTOULIS the  
...WANDA's transport to the mountains.

Introduction to Communist Leaders.

...FANTOULIS took MERZ and WANDA on tram  
...the outskirts of ATHENS, where they were  
...to YANNOULIS, a director of the Greek National  
...and simultaneously a Communist leader.  
...proceeded still further out, almost as  
...to a summer cottage where they had  
...meeting with Leonidas (Christian name only known)  
...and friend of General ARIS; Costas (Christian  
...), chief of Intel'gence Section of the  
...Communist Party" and writer of articles for Greek  
...; and Philippinos LADRIS, Chief of the  
...Wing" of KAN in ATHENS and representative  
...the military wing of EAM. LADRIS  
...MERZ who had rehearsed this expected interview  
...MERZ said that he was a Dutchman, working  
...secret societies with Communist leanings. He was  
...many Communist tenets, all of which his ex-  
...friend MA JONKZAK had explained to him in KIRKUCE in  
...had to discourse on the philosophers well-known to  
...Communists, or, as MERZ put it, on the Communist philoso-  
...MARXISTS, HEBDEL and HEGEL. MERZ had to state whether  
...collectivist or individualist. He decided for  
...individualism, but LADRIS warned him not to say to the other  
...Communists, as they were all collectivists. LADRIS  
...put MERZ on his guard about his Communist colleagues "for  
...promise much and do little."

WANDA's Departure Imminent.

On the return trip from the cottage to ATHENS,  
...told MERZ that apparently everything had gone  
...to plan, that in a few days WANDA would be sent  
...General ARIS at HQ ELAS, near LEVARDIA, in the mountains,  
...that she would be flown thence to CAIRO in a British AC.

At Elasa.

During the following few days FANTOULIS sent  
...several times for MERZ and WANDA on the pretext that he would  
...able to announce the exact date of departure. At every  
...FANTOULIS put them off till another day. Once the  
...Communist proposed that MERZ should accompany  
...to ARIS and remain with ELAS as instructor in sabotage  
...). Dr GRAB, in order to enhance MERZ's value  
...the Greeks, had told FANTOULIS that the Dutchman was an  
...saboteur (MERZ denies vigorously any knowledge of  
...or ever having had any training in it). The added  
...for MERZ's trip to ELAS HQ was to be the personal  
...with British officers who were to fly WANDA from the  
...to CAIRO. MERZ was to explain to them the true  
...and nature of WANDA's mission. He was cautioned not  
...General ARIS or any of the Greeks at ELAS HQ into the  
...as they knew of WANDA and MERZ only as good Communists  
...mission.

WANDA was able to take an active part in these  
...with FANTOULIS, as with TIMANILIS, for both those  
...speak Polish fluently. MERZ observed, incidentally,  
...at every meeting FANTOULIS questioned WANDA very closely  
...organizations and her work in them.

85. M.I.P. Code and Other Documents Lent to FANTOULIS.

Both WANDA and MERZ began to feel uneasy about the repeated postponement of her journey and finally called once on THEMILIS. He telephoned at once to FANTOULIS. The answer came from the other end of the line that everything had been arranged, and that WANDA would leave in a few days. As THEMILIS seemed to accept this statement as a definite fact, WANDA asked him to return to her all the papers and documents, including the M.I.P. code which she had entrusted to him for safe keeping at their first meeting. THEMILIS had to admit that he had passed them all on to FANTOULIS. Eventually they were, however, handed to WANDA. Two sets of "illegal" M.I.P. postage stamps were missing. This time WANDA preferred to deposit the precious papers with Mme BARUTI. MERZ could not insist on taking temporary possession of them as WANDA had originally been given these documents in WARSAW with instructions to deliver them personally at Polish H., ME.

86. First Visit to H. EARL ATHENS.

The night after the meeting with THEMILIS, MERZ and WANDA were ordered to LADRIS once more, this time not to his summer cottage outside ATHENS, but to his luxuriously appointed villa at 26 Avenue Alexander, the ATHENS HQ of the Communist Wing of EARL. There they found present the same group which had been at the country cottage, namely YANCOULIS, LADRIS, Leonidas and Costas. Very ceremoniously their names were entered in a large book and they had to produce their "spurious" passports. WANDA gave as her real name a Polish pseudonym, (which MERZ does not recall) and her German pseudonym, Margarethe HONBACH (born in CRACOW, Volksdeutsche!) was copied from her German passport. (AKT VI or GRAD had invented her CRACOW birth to explain, if need be, her inability to speak German). MERZ gave Jan Van der LINDE as his real name, and his "pseudonym" Hans MERZ was copied from his "false" German passport.

(NOTE by IO : \* Previously MERZ had given 20/21 Sep as the date for this first visit to H. EARL. In reality it must have taken place much earlier, possibly on 5 or 9 Sep.

87. Arrival of Stefan MAJCHERZAK with W/T Set.

After three weeks of fruitless efforts to get WANDA across to Egypt, Stefan MAJCHERZAK arrived by air and went straight to the Hotel ATHEN whither MERZ had moved. Stefan brought with him two W/T sets from AKT VI in BERLIN, one transmitter and one receiver, both painted white or light grey, and, as far as MERZ can remember, both RADIOME. The instrument which MERZ, in his real or pretended innocence of matters radiophonic, considered the receiver he used in his hotel room to listen to radio programmes.

88. Personal News for MERZ.

MAJCHERZAK told him that the SS and Police Court had made inquiries about him and his whereabouts, and the authorities of HAMBURG-NEUHOF Labour "Education" Camp, having their attention thus drawn to MERZ's unauthorized absence from a spell of "sand-shovelling," were also interested in him once more. BERLIN (\* AKT IV ? ) had ordered him to return there at once. MERZ told MAJCHERZAK that he preferred to stay in ATHENS.

/(NOTE ...

(NOTE by IO :- If his story is true, he had been told, before his first journey to ATHENS, that severe punishment was awaiting him. However, SMIRING had apparently assured him that AMT VI would take care of the matter. It would be in keeping with the policy of German espionage organizations, as evinced by several previous German cases here, to have told him, before leaving Germany, that his sins would be wiped off the slate if his mission was successful.)

89. MAJCHERZAK is Representative of M.I.P. and MERZ's Chief.

With all Greeks whom he met MAJCHERZAK posed as the representative of M.I.P. sent to ATHENS to take charge of arrangements for WANDA's journey. During his 3 to 9 days' stay Stefan thus was MERZ's and WANDA's chief in the eyes of the Greeks.

90. Alleged Substitution of Nationalist for Communists.

MAJCHERZAK's first visit was to the BARUTI family, who knew of WANDA's "real" mission and realized that she, MERZ and GARD were posing as Communists only to attain their end with BAR. They knew that in reality all three were good Nationalists. BARUTI, a retired Army officer and fervent Nationalist, deplored their dealings with Greek Communists and offered Stefan MAJCHERZAK with whom he conversed in French, to approach his Greek Nationalist organization with a view to their taking charge of WANDA's transport to ME. BARUTI told Stefan and MERZ that the British Secret Service sent regularly every fortnight a motor-boat (Oticus 1) to the Dodaganeze for the transport of British and Greek officers. A few days later BARUTI informed them that his efforts had proved fruitless. His Nationalist Group had received an order from CAIRO to keep all British and Greek officers in Greece until further notice, because in the next few days there would be great political developments. In fact the Italians capitulated a week later and MERZ thinks that BARUTI's story was not merely based on imagination.

91. MAJCHERZAK and Greek Communist.

Before BAR-UTI had returned with the reply from his Nationalist Group, MAJCHERZAK had been introduced to THEMILIS. Stefan, with his perfect Polish, got on much better with the versatile Greek than MERZ with his "three words of Polish." MAJCHERZAK, the ex-Communist, could pose more convincingly as a Polish Communist leader who had nevertheless managed to be accepted by M.I.P. as a Nationalist. THEMILIS pretended to be highly honoured by the visit of such an eminent representative of his "comrades" in Poland. FANTOULIS hastened with the august presence and arranged with comrade Stefan the establishment of better and closer contact with MOSCOW. Stefan also made the acquaintance of other Greek Communists, including YANOULIS, Costas and Leonidas, but NOT of LADNIS. MAJCHERZAK soon discovered that most of these Communists distrusted him as much as MERZ, for he too was put off with numerous excuses for "unavoidable delays" in the matter of WANDA's transport.

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MAJOURZAK's Final Demand.

When Stefan realised that he, too, was meeting with passive resistance, he made a peremptory request of THEMILIS for an immediate decision and an unequivocal statement. WANDA was to be sent at once to EE by the airplane. THEMILIS blamed the delay entirely on FANTOULIS, and declared that he would now take personal charge of WANDA, and that this mission had become a sacred obligation to the Greeks, and that FANTOULIS, and other Greeks with him, had let the Poles down. He assured Stefan that WANDA's transport had become a concern of the Greeks and that the Poles need no longer be responsible for arrangements. He would immediately report the serious delay to HQ EAM, who would settle everything immediately. There was no need for MAJOURZAK to remain in ATHENS and he could therefore return to WARSAW in the knowledge that WANDA would be in Egypt in a few days.

EE: The W/T Double-Cross, or All-Round Cross.

Out of gratitude Stefan, before his departure, promised THEMILIS the W/T sets of M.I.P. (in reality sent by ANT VI !) along with the M.I.P. code, so that THEMILIS could notify GRAD of WANDA's return from EE. In case she did not return he was to inform WARSAW of the arrival of the Polish courier who would be sent to ATHENS, in her stead, by General MERZ, with a reply from Polish HQ, ME.

(NOTE by IO :- MERZ had not mentioned this alternative courier from Polish HQ in his previous interrogation.)

THEMILIS said that he had excellent W/T operators who could send the code message. After Stefan's departure MERZ decided not to deliver the copy of the code to THEMILIS.

(NOTE by IO :- MERZ seems to have suspected that the code had been copied by THEMILIS or FANTOULIS while they had all of WANDA's documents in their custody.)

MERZ also retained the W/T receiving set for his own use at the hotel. He delivered only the W/T transmitter to THEMILIS who was highly pleased, after making certain that the Poles, through MERZ, would not make him pay for it. On the ensuing day FANTOULIS complained to MERZ that this W/T set had not been given to him for his Communist Group. He felt that they, rather than THEMILIS, should have had this gift bestowed upon them since they were really in charge of all arrangements for WANDA's transport. Later FANTOULIS informed him that the W/T set was worth 20,000,000 drs. (MERZ assumed from this that THEMILIS had sold the set at that price for his own benefit.) HOSSELBARTH told him later that MERZ no longer trusted the Greeks, after all these delays, and had dropped the plan of building up W/T communications via the ATHENS Communists, and that therefore they wished to have the set returned to them. MERZ was unable to persuade THEMILIS to disgorge it. The cunning Greek took MERZ to some "Communists" in the old city "to whom he had entrusted the set." They confirmed THEMILIS's statements and regretted that the instrument was now somewhere in a safe but inaccessible place.

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94. MERZ in a quandary.

Meanwhile the Italians had capitulated and the Greeks explained yet further delays by their inability to pass the intensified German military control on all roads and streets. MERZ, on the strength of THEMILIS's definite promise of WANDA's speedy departure and Stefan's apparent acceptance, had booked a passage on an AC for his return to BERLIN on 22/24 Sep. He was now in a quandary. He had told KESSELBARTH, who arranged for his air passage, that WANDA had left. BERLIN demanded the return of the W/T set and he could not produce it. His money was getting short. He had told THEMILIS that he had received orders from MAJOWSKI to return immediately to WARSZAWA. MAJOWSKI himself had told THEMILIS, YANOUKIS and FANTOULIS that he would order MERZ back to WARSZAWA a few days after his own departure.

95. Final arrangements for WANDA's trip to G. ELAS.

Two days before MERZ was due to fly back to BERLIN YANOUKIS brought the news that the EAM courier had returned to ATHENS from G. ELAS and that everything was ready for WANDA's trip to General ARIS in the mountains. On the following day WANDA and MERZ went once more to LADAKIS's summer cottage outside ATHENS to discuss details of the journey.

(NOTE by IO :- Previously MERZ had stated that this meeting took place in LADAKIS's town house, at 26 Avenue Alexander.)

LADAKIS claimed to have warned MERZ once before that he should not be too confident and that this time, too, he had his misgivings. YANOUKIS, FANTOULIS and Leonidas, however, reassured MERZ. They had found three trucks for the journey. MERZ, on the strength of his German passport, was to obtain permits for the three vehicles from the German Area Commander (Ortskommandantur) for a journey to KOSTAVIA (7), near the Macedonian frontier "to buy agricultural produce." MERZ obtained these permits on the same day from a Dr SCHULZ ( ), Sonderfuhrer and Interpreter in the Area Commander's office. He decided not to fly back to BERLIN on the next day, because he wanted to supervise personally WANDA's departure from ATHENS.

96. Trucks leave without WANDA.

FANTOULIS, THEMILIS and YANOUKIS knew WANDA's address and one of them was to fetch her at 0500 hrs on the following morning. WANDA and MERZ waited in vain until the afternoon, when YANOUKIS appeared and tearfully explained that yet another mishap had occurred. Fighting had broken out in the mountains between General ZERVAS's Nationalist guerillas and General ARIS's Communist troops.

(In fact, about this time, STEINBERG, the AMT VI agent, told MERZ that ZERVAS had approached him with a view to enlisting German help against ELAS /Sec para 64/17. MERZ believes that these negotiations did not produce definite results "because STEINBERG did not mention them again." THEMILIS admitted to MERZ that he had a share in this deal.)

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According to a variant form of the same story, MERZ saw LARIS alone at his town house on the next day (25/6 Sep). LARIS was unable to explain the non-arrival of the trucks at WANDA's house. (See Chapter 0, p.5, approx. 25/6 Sep 43).

97. Plans for Contacting Poles in ANKARA.

WANDA, according to MERZ, now produced a new plant Postal communication with her relations in ANKARA. At the post-office they were informed that since the Italian Armistice no post was going to foreign countries from Greece. It was MERZ's turn to suggest that WANDA and he should go to ANKARA, so that he could return from there to BERLIN in the near future and settle his personal affairs.

(NOTE by IO :- Although MERZ has talked endlessly about this and subsequent new plans, has given a dozen different reasons and motives for them, and has been cross-examined at great length on this part of his story, he has not retracted it as he has done with a number of other facts, this despite IO's reiterated statement to him that he remained unconvinced and that this was one of the weakest links in his recital of events.)

98. Preparations for MERZ's journey to ANKARA.

MERZ went to the Turkish Consulate in ATHENS. He had heard that visas for Turkey were almost unobtainable, and he was therefore surprised when he was granted one without difficulty on the strength of his declaration that he wished to go there to negotiate for the importation of agricultural machinery and paper. WANDA preferred not to go by this route, in view of her German passport and her inability to pass herself off as a German. It was therefore decided that MERZ should go alone to Turkey, taking with him a copy of the code for W/T traffic between Polish HQ, ME, and M.I.P., also the originals of letters and papers. (See list in Chapter 0., on page 5, 29 Sep 43). WANDA's relations in ANKARA would contact her husband, Colonel (or, as MERZ learned later, in Turkey, Major) JOZEF CIKOV, who would arrange for her journey through General ANDERS.

(NOTE by IO :- The two sheets of the code and instructions, written by WANDA, have not yet been sent to the British authorities by Polish HQ or Capt LODOSKOWSKI, nor has a copy been sent to us to help us in the interrogation. Typewritten copies of other documents, not the originals, have, however, reached SIMS).

99. Letter from Greek Communists to GRAD and MAJOREK.

MERZ had told the Greeks that he was returning to WARSAW, therefore they wrote to GRAD and MAJOREK, the only two Poles they had met in ATHENS, apologising for delaying MERZ in ATHENS and assuring the Poles that they would take good care of WANDA and would continue in their efforts to get her to CAIRO.

(NOTE by IO :- MERZ believed this letter to be insincere. He has apparently delivered it to AMT VI. He had signed it as well as SCOPA, who styled himself "Chief of the Communist Party.")

This letter was handed to MERZ by Vasiliyev

180. News of the Death of Six Leaders of M.I.P.

On his last visit to HOSSELBARTH the Polizeistatthe told him that he had just received a W/T message from BERLIN concerning the shooting of GRAD, ANDRZEJ and four other leaders of M.I.P. No other details were given. MERZ pretended to WANDA that he had received a post-card, containing the bad news, from Stefan, the p.o. being posted in VIENNA. WANDA declared that now more than ever the Poles needed ANDRZEJ as the strong men were left in Poland to avert a catastrophe. She did not believe that the leaders of Z. Z. (under whom she had worked for two years) were capable of saving Poland.

181. MERZ's Final Departure.

MERZ pretended to have pasted all documents in a false bottom of his suitcase in order to get them safely through the Turkish customs. He took his leave of WANDA on 3 Oct, gave her his remaining 700,000 drs and flew to SOFIA on 5 Oct, after consoling her with the promise to be back in ATHENS in 10/12 days.

(d) ATHENS Addresses.

182. HOSSELBARTH, Polizeistatthe. Official office: 14 Mousou Area, near Embassy, behind Protestant Hospital.

WANDA (Marie JOZEFOWA, alias Margarethe HORBACH) Last known address: 12B Nigitaru, near Omonia Square. (Key to this house found in MERZ's possession). WANDA lives there under the assumed name of Margarethe HORBACH.

M. and Mrs BARUTI. In a villa surrounded by a large garden, in Sokratou or Stotelas Street, just behind Yoyanidou Street.

BARUTI's daughter and her husband. Leader of ATHENS Theatre Orchestra. (Name of these two forgotten by MERZ). Trikor No. 8, just off Septembriou Street. (Mr BARUTI lives just around the corner from his daughter).

Michael THEMILIS. Town Residence: Makri No. 8, 2nd floor. (On first floor lives mother of Col BARA PHIS, of the Greek Nationalists.) Office: in a building near end of Eurypidou St, office No. 10, entrance through a cafe, by church of St Theodore.

Philippina LARRIS. Chief of a group of EAM. 26 Rue Alexander. Well-appointed villa, apparently Hq of Communist Wing of EAM.

Reichsbankverkehrsaktiva. (German Rly Travel Bureau, used as contact or reporting centre for agents of AMT VI). In University Street, on opposite side of University, past the second cross street in the direction of Constitution Square. Probably the former Greek Rly Travel Bureau.

STEINBERG. Agent of AMT VI. Hotel Athen.

(e) MERZ's Version of Greek Parties and Secret Organizations.183. MERZ's Background in Greek Politics.

/THEMILIS ...

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THEMILIS lectured at great length to Dr GRAD on this all-absorbing topic. GRAD relayed the gist to MERZ and most of his views on Greek politics are derived from these lectures. In BERLIN MERZ was given a vague picture of Greek political conditions and he completed it by personal observation and contact. It is very incomplete and clearly shows that he had few contacts outside EAM.

104. Communist Combine.

As soon as Greece had been occupied by the Germans, "illegal" Greek parties and organizations sprung up. The Communists had the longest experience in subversive activities and therefore soon occupied nearly all important posts in various organizations. This explains why the Germans at first looked upon EAM, a combine of many Left wing groups (called Der Block), as a league of Communist fractions. EAM is the military wing of this combine, under the leadership of General ARIS.

105. Infiltration of Democrats and Formation of Independent Communist Party.

Recently the democrats have taken over many posts, ousting the Communist incumbents, some of whom have formed a separate and independent organization which is purely Communist. (Unfortunately MERZ has forgotten the name of this party, as well as that of the Nationalists, mentioned below).

106. Nationalist Group.

The Nationalists have enjoyed vigorous backing by the British Secret Service. Lately, however, since the fight between Nationalist and ELAS guerrillas in the mountains, General ZERVAS has approached the Germans, who appear not to have promised their wholehearted support to the Nationalists.

107. Royalists and EAM.

The Royalists remain passive and merely await the arrival of the British which will enable them to run the country once more. The Greek nation, however, no longer wishes a King. Should he return to Greece, EAM would immediately start a revolution.

108. The Dodecanese Group of Der Block.

Michael THEMILIS claims to be the leader of the Dodecanesians and to have 2,000 trained soldiers at his disposal. His group is in the Block (EAM). It is backed by a legal (i.e. sanctioned by the Germans!) charitable organization which supplies the Dodecanesians with money and food.

(f) German Penetration of Greek Secret Organizations.

109. Flanned by ANT VI ?

Apparently MERZ had been assigned, as one of his subsidiary tasks, the penetration of what the Germans consider the Communist Wing of EAM and of the possibly new, independent Communist group in ATHENS. MERZ had admitted he gathered much information on personalities, and on communications between these parties and Greeks in ME, and that he passed on these secrets to ANT VI through HOSSELBARTH, Polizeistatue in ATHENS. Dr GRAD, a leader of M.I.P., made first contacts for MERZ

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through some Polish speaking Greeks in ATHENS. WANDA was then introduced to "Communist" leaders, who were to devise means for her transport to ME. At one stage MERZ's Polish friend MAJCHERZAK was sent to ATHENS by AMT VI and was "approached" by a Nationalist who revealed some of their methods of communication with ME.

110. Results obtained by MERZ, with the Help of MAJCHERZAK and GRAD.

MERZ ascertained and reported the following secrets to HOSSELBARTH :-

111. Michael THEMILIS is an enigma. He styles himself leader of the small Dodecanesian Group in EAM and at the same time maintains contacts with Nationalist. He also made arrangements with GRAD for personal Polish backing after the War for himself.
112. YANOULIS and FANTOULIS, though employed by the German sponsored Greek National Broadcasting System, are Communist leaders.
113. LADRIS is Chief of the Political Wing of EAM in ATHENS.
114. Leonidas (--?) is a representative of General ARIS in ATHENS.
115. Costas (--?) is another important member or leader of EAM.
116. BARUTZ, a retired Army officer, and his wife, a White Russian emigree of noble birth, are Nationalists.
117. The ATHENS HQ of EAM is in a luxuriously appointed villa at 26 Avenue Alexander. LARIS lives there.
118. EAM members also foregather in a summer cottage outside ATHENS, near the mountains, reached from the end of tramline No. 12.
119. ELAS HQ was near LEVADIA, in the mountains, and since the battles between its own and Nationalist guerillas has been transferred to the region just west of Mount OLYMPOS.
120. A regular courier service is maintained between HQ ELAS and HQ EAM, 26 Avenue Alexander, ATHENS.
121. A regular courier service exists between British GHQ, CAIRO, and HQ ELAS. British AC transport British and Greek officers back and forth between CAIRO and an LG near HQ ELAS.
122. On 25/26 Sep 43 WANDA was to be taken to HQ ELAS by the EAM - ELAS courier and was to be flown thence in a British AC to CAIRO.
123. British GHQ CAIRO has a staff of liaison officers with General ARIS at HQ ELAS.
124. THEMILIS's Dodecanese group maintains a ferry service from the PELOPONNESUS to the DODECANESE and thence to Turkey and other parts of ME.

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125. The Nationalists are in close touch with the British, and maintain a fortnightly service between PIRAEUS and the BULGARIAN by a motor-boat or launch which is disguised as a fishing boat or caique. British and Greek officers are transported in this vessel to and from PIRAEUS.

126. This British-Greek Nationalist service was suspended on orders of the British just before the Italian Armistice.

127. The Greek Gendarmerie has many informers in the Communist Groups. The Germans do not know the names of these informers. The Greek Gendarmerie is Nationalist and as such opposes Communism which opposes the return of the Greek King. When Italy capitulated and the Greeks expected an Allied invasion, the Gendarmerie was very active against the Communists. As soon as the invasion appeared to be less imminent these anti-Communist activities ceased.

(g) How to circumvent German Military Road Control in Greece.

128. MERZ helped to make arrangements for WANDA's transport from ATHENS to HQ ELAS in Sep 43. He approached the German Area Commander in ATHENS and obtained the required passes and permits for 3 trucks. If anyone wishes to leave ATHENS and return there by car he should ask for a permit to fetch food from the country. This applies to Germans, Italian and Greek civilians alike and seems the quickest and easiest method for obtaining permits, in view of the scarcity of food supplies in ATHENS.

129. At all exits from ATHENS there are German Military Control posts with road blocks. At these posts all special passes, identity cards and passes for cars must be shown. Once past these barriers only occasional controls are met on the main roads.

130. For journeys by car into the country the following special passes and permits must be obtained from the Germans :-

A special pass certifying that the journey is undertaken to buy food. This is signed by the Ortakommandant or his 2nd i/c.

A Permit on which is stated the exact route to be followed, the number of the car licence, the name of the owner of the car, the name of the driver (or drivers).

A permit for petrol for the journey.

The account of this interrogation will continue in RICE Report No. 7, with Chapter K, Organization of SIPO (Reichssicherheitshauptamt, SD, STAPO, KRIFO), SIPO in Poland, SIPO School, Ranks in SIPO.

29 December 1943.  
RICE HQ MEF.

*Edward Tilley*  
(E. TILLEY, Major,  
Interrogating Officer.)

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