

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Air Pouch

ESBA-3047

Chief, Foreign Branch

22 May 1950

Operational

May 16

Re: BERN-2775 and 2785

1. Source was seen in Geneva on 12 May. [] took part in the meeting and was introduced to source for the first time.
2. The most important development (BERN-2775) is not written up in the attached diary as SEALEY only arrived at source's house at 2330 the previous evening. As has become his habit, SEALEY brought along a copy of the latest cable from London affecting source.
3. OTTOLINI had apparently raised an embarrassing stink with the Consul General that afternoon and SEALEY wanted source to help him out of the mess. Source called SEALEY, saying he had performed the original introduction but did not intend to have anything further to do with it. SEALEY explained that he had put out 100,000 lire for various reports in Rome and they had all proved worthless. They apparently included an OS report on the Albanian army, whose strength was quoted as 100,000 men, and a despatch allegedly originating from the Czech legation in Rome which, on translation, turned out to be an inter-office memorandum of no interest. The cable also expressed London's thanks for the OTTOLINI introduction as the whole operation had originally looked most promising.
4. Source expressed reluctance to spend much time on arms matters, as he was not in the business personally, and in his experience the various deals nearly always turned out to have no substance, which resulted in a vast waste of time for anyone trying to follow them. Source then asked SEALEY whether he could procure arms available for export, as source could always dig up buyers. If SEALEY could, that would make the matter worth everybody's while; source might be able to produce information from people like BULLOCK. SEALEY felt pretty sure he could, though London would have to clear first, and time would be included. Source understands that for the time being...

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Distribution
Wash (3)
Chronic (1)
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SECRET

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AUG 26 1952
COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

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SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2006

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Attachment-1

22-5-51

prearranged when source and his wife knew they were coming to Basel.)

11. Large luncheon party at our friend, Mrs. BROCKMANN (KSA-1936), 53 Remond's. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Hans STRICHENBERGER (head of the Fides Bank) who are old friends of ours and Mr. and Mrs. Hans SARASIN of the Sarasin private bank.

(NOTE: STRICHENBERGER is undoubtedly 1/2 Franz STRICHENBERGER mentioned in KSA-2732. According to the Basel phone book, STRICHENBERGER is the correct spelling. STRICHENBERGER's wife is a Dr. RACHS, the banking family.)

He was in Swiss intelligence during the war and very often worked in Lugano. He said he was still working, and getting a lot of interesting things as he is traveling most of the time in Germany. He said his main target was for information on the danger from the Right in Germany, and he thought we were underestimating this in view of the danger from the Left which seemed to loom larger on our horizon.

(NOTE: Source remarked that wife BUEHLER (KSA-3019, etc.), for example, served under SARASIN during the war.)

12. I said I had been in contact with some of the old German-Italian SS, recently for some articles and had been given an address to contact these men, a certain Dr. VOCHTING, Remond's. He said they knew him well, as a Nazi during the war, and now they were watching him fairly closely as he seemed to be a cut-out for all Nazi elements passing through Switzerland. I just told him a bit about DOLLMAN (KSA-3018, etc.) and he seemed very interested.

(NOTE: Source told SARASIN that he had met DOLLMAN on a train and the latter had given him VOCHTING's address. In case he should ever want to get in touch with him (DOLLMAN) again. SARASIN said that VOCHTING, a professor, had written a book on German racial superiority.)

13. Returned to Lugano that evening. I met in the train an old war contact, Werner STENGLER, Dorogobrasce 9, Lugano, who is freight manager on the Gotthard line and who was most helpful during the war in arranging for us to send people over the Gotthard in freight trains to avoid the police control on the trains. I think he might be noted down for he never gave information to the Swiss, and he had considerable difficulties with them on this subject. He was most friendly and asked me to come and see him in Lugano whenever passing through.

8 May

14. Contact established with JAMES as per schedule. Telephone call

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Attachment-A

MSBA-3017
22-5-50

From OLLIAN (BERN-2732, etc.) in Rome, in a lowering rage, as he has been trying to contact CROSS (MSBA-3026) who refused to come to the phone, and who finally fixed two appointments with OLLIAN and never showed up at either. OLLIAN is furious and asked me to contact him at once and insist upon a meeting, or at least some news on the passport business. I immediately telegraphed to CROSS asking him to call me the following day for something urgent.

9 May

15. Spent the day waiting for communication from CROSS which never came, so I sent off an air mail letter, pretty strong, and asking for an immediate reply, or I could no longer take the responsibility of controlling OLLIAN.

10 May

16. On Sunday the maid had taken a message from Milano from someone speaking German asking me to meet him on Wednesday in Milano. He would call at the Hotel du Nord at two-thirty. No name had been given, and I thought it most likely the Jugs, so I went off to keep the appointment, waiting until three-thirty when my friend Renato PAROTTI (MSB-W-1773, etc.) from Varese turned up, saying he had telephoned to Lugano and only said that if I were in Milano that day he would call to see me, but the maid had gotten it all twisted.

(NOTE: The PAROTTI meeting was of no interest, involving an old business affair which had been lying dormant.)

I tried to contact Robin REAHY (MSBA-3018, etc.) who was not in Milano and IMPADUS-1 was not to be found at home, so returned to Lugano that evening.

11 May

17. While waiting to telegraph PERRY today at the station in Lugano a rather pillowy gentleman came up and asked me if I were IMPADUS. When I said I was there were more girlish giggles and he said, "I am Colonel BOLLMAN, and just incidentally, I recognized you from your photos." I said that was really remarkable for I usually looked in photos like something that had recently passed through SS hands. More peals of girlish laughter, and I was told that I really was a wit, for which compliment I thanked him as forcibly as possible. He said he was in Lugano, over for the day, and would be off at the end of the week for Paris and would see Paul. He then rushed off to a train, and said he would come and see us on his return from Paris.

18. PERRY came up in front of my house around three o'clock after noon saying he would see us at once, and would be in Lugano. I said I wanted to see him as I had been talking things over carefully.