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Maj Friedrich LIEBER
© Dr. Friedrich BAUER

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FINAL REPORT

ON

Maj Friedrich LIEBER *Ed*

@ Dr Friedrich BAUER *priv. Ed.*

(Ref IB/A2/PF 2489 dated 29 Mar 46 and HQ Int Div/A1(a)/PF 2489 dated 19 Aug 46. See also CSDIC(WEA) Preliminary Interrogation Report 146 dated 11 May 46.)

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PREAMBLE

1. Although Prisoner has been interrogated under some pressure, it has not been possible to establish a connection between his commercial activities in ENGLAND, his alleged espionage activities, and his later rôle in the Abw.
2. In this connection RITTER, WEISSHUN and PRATORIOUS (former Prisoners at DIC) have been interrogated on their knowledge of Prisoner, but they were unable to throw any light on his alleged work for the GIS in ENGLAND before the war. They agreed unanimously, however, that Prisoner was quite unsuitable for Abw work and that his unorthodox and exaggerated ideas and plans inevitably brought him into conflict with his superior officers. RITTER, who was responsible for Prisoner's initial training in HAMBURG, is of the opinion that if Prisoner had been engaged on espionage in ENGLAND before the war, he would certainly have heard about it.
3. Prisoner states that he has never been to PORTUGAL, ROUMANIA, SPAIN or NORTH AFRICA (re HUNGARY see Appendix C, para 13c).
4. In spite of Prisoner's seemingly genuine desire to co-operate, his bad memory for dates and detail necessarily make this report incomplete.
5. In spite of accusations brought against him, Prisoner claims to be anglophile in his outlook. He states that he never had any sympathy for National Socialism and that he was never a member of the Party or any of its affiliations.

II. PERSONAL HISTORY

- 1901 - 14 Educated at primary and secondary schools.
- 1914 - 18 Military service.
- 1919 Granted leave to find civilian post and finally demobilised 1 Oct 19.
- 1920 - 25 Apprentice and later Prokurist in his uncle's export and import firm in HAMBURG, Carl LIEBER.
- 1925 Set up his own business, an export and import agency under the name of Friedrich LIEBER. Paid his first visit to ENGLAND during this year.
- 1932 - 33 Became the agent for ENGLAND of the mirror manufacturers Paul ZISCHKA, HAMBURG-ALTONA, and of the firm of HEINE & CO, HALBERSTADT, a sausage concern. Shortly afterwards he

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also became the representative in ENGLAND of the ENGEL-
HARDT brewery; BERLIN.

1934 Together with a friend, Paul THORMANN, a Jewish emigrant
from MUNICH, Prisoner set up a mirror factory in ENGLAND
under the name of REXOR Ltd. He later sold his share
in the business to THORMANN.

1932 - 39 From about 1932, Prisoner visited ENGLAND practically
every year, first to attend the British Industries Fair
in LONDON and secondly in connection with his work as a
commercial representative to contact various British firms
(for list of these firms see CSDIC(WEA) PIR 146).

5 Jun 39 Called up as a Reserve Officer to Ast HAMBURG for Abw
training in Ref I L.

15 Jul - 9 Oct 39 Posted to Ast KIEL (Korv Kap MÜHLEND AHL), where he was
subordinated to Ref I M (Kap Lt Dr. ROTH) as Ref I L.

10 Oct 39 - 30 Jun 41 Prisoner was posted to Ast BERLIN (Obst BRUSSATIS)
because of various disagreements with Kap Lt ROTH.
Prisoner worked under the Leiter I, Obstlt ROSENTRETER,
who was also Ref I L. In the course of his work Prisoner
often quarrelled with BRUSSATIS, which probably led to
his dismissal from Abw I by order of OKW (13 Jul 41).
Married Anni LIEBER née BROCKMÖLLER.

11 Jun 40 Sent to Ast HANOVER, where he worked for III L.

1 Aug 41 - 31 Mar 42 Discharged from Abw and posted to Luftgaukdo HAMBURG,
where he worked in Abt Ic.

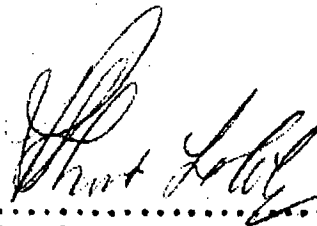
1 Apr - 30 Sep 42 With Luftgaukdo MÜNSTER, where he worked as Lageroffizier
Ic and Deputy Leiter.

1 Oct 42 - 25 Aug 44 Applied for discharge from Wehrmacht on grounds of
ill-health.

15 Aug 44 In hospital at KREUTH, Res Lazarett, TECHERNSEE.

26 Aug 44 - 23 Jul 45 Arrested by Americans.

19 Apr 46 Arrived CSDIC(WEA).



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for Colonel GS
Commandant DIC, CCG(BE)

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15 Oct 46

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APPENDIX A TO FR 104

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Maj Friedrich LIEDER

@ Dr Friedrich DAUER

APPENDIX A

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES IN ENGLAND AND GERMANY BETWEEN 1932 and 1939

1. Introduction

Prisoner firmly denies having established an Int Service in ENGLAND. He maintains that he was in consequence never decorated for special work and also denies having employed 15 agents, one of whom was running a travel agency in LONDON. He further denies having submitted photographs or reports of any description to the GIS. He attributes his being suspected of espionage to his activities in ENGLAND for the firm of Anton ZISCHKA in HAMBURG.

2. 1932

Prisoner states that in autumn 32 he became sole agent for ENGLAND of Anton ZISCHKA, HAMBURG-ALTONA, manufacturer of mirrors. ZISCHKA employed a photographer in his firm, Paul SCHMERSAHL, a friend of Prisoner, who travelled about taking photographs of shops and business premises. The printed photographs were then fixed on to the back of the mirrors, and sold to the shops in question, who used them for advertising purposes.

Prisoner, who was introduced to ZISCHKA by Paul SCHMERSAHL, obtained his position as agent in ENGLAND on the condition that he covered his own travelling expenses and also those of SCHMERSAHL, whom he was to take with him as his photographer. Prisoner agreed to this and he and SCHMERSAHL left for ENGLAND on 10 or 11 Nov 32, disembarking at SOUTHAMPTON, where they found accommodation at the Rolls Hotel. In order not to waste any time, SCHMERSAHL started taking photographs of various firms in SOUTHAMPTON almost immediately. In the meantime, Prisoner found himself obliged to look out for an interpreter, and also for cheaper lodgings. As he had no personal connections in SOUTHAMPTON, he made an appointment at the German Consulate, c/o HENNIKER and HOGGE, Royal Mail Buildings. Here he met a Mr PARROT, who introduced him to SCHARPF a German clerk employed by HENNIKER & HOGGE. SCHARPF, according to Prisoner, was of great help to him, as he introduced him to various people in SOUTHAMPTON, among whom Prisoner remembers Mr and Mrs KNOP of KNOP & Co, SOUTHAMPTON, who found him accommodation with a Miss SIMS at 12 Wilton Ave, and Mrs JOINER, a German who married an Englishman during the Occupation of the RHINELAND after the 1914-18 war. Prisoner later engaged Mrs JOINER as his interpreter and secretary. SCHARPF also managed to engage a few representatives for Prisoner, of whom he remembers only one by the name of SMITH. On one occasion, Prisoner bought some picture postcards of various ships of the UNION CASTLE Line, which he sent to ZISCHKA in HAMBURG, as Prisoner intended to approach the shipping company on the subject of his mirrors. In the meantime, Prisoner found it impossible to carry on in ENGLAND under the then existing financial conditions, and as his business made only slow progress, he decided to return to HAMBURG at Christmas 32 in order to come to a better financial agreement with ZISCHKA.

3. 1933

Shortly after the New Year, Prisoner returned to SOUTHAMPTON, and a few days later, he, SCHMERSAHL and Mrs JOINER travelled to LONDON, where they hoped to find a new market for their goods. They rented a small flat in Hammersmith Road (?). In order to be able to deal with any orders received from his reps in SOUTHAMPTON, Prisoner asked SCHARPF if he could use the German Consulate as his official address; SCHARPF agreed to this, and Prisoner had the address c/o HENNIKER & HOGGE, German Consulate, Royal Mail Buildings, printed on his visiting cards and writing paper.

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While his business in SOUTHAMPTON showed some improvement, no headway was made in LONDON and he found himself obliged to dismiss Mrs JOINER and SCHIERSAHL. During the time they had been in his employment, Prisoner had paid their expenses out of his own pocket, including a small salary, the amount of which he cannot remember. Then, through the owner (Mr NATHAN) of KIRKEY & BUNN, Old Bond Street, Prisoner obtained an introduction to LYONS, Cadby Hall, where he received an order for about 50,000 mirrors. The delivery of such a big order occasioned certain difficulties, so Prisoner returned to HAMBURG in summer 33 to discuss the deal with ZISCHKA.

In summer 33, his fiancée (later his wife), Anni BROCKHÖLLER, joined him in SOUTHAMPTON. Together they spent a fortnight on the ISLE OF WIGHT. They then travelled to LONDON where they stayed for a few days only. She then accompanied him to HAMBURG.

During his stay in LONDON in 1933, Prisoner made the following acquaintances:

- Mr DARCY, of the ABDULLA cigarette factory.
- Mr C.O.F. PAGET, of ASSOCIATED APPLIANCES Ltd.
- Mr J. KISSNER, of FALDOT Ltd.
- Mr Jacob WASSERMANN, of the ROYAL EXCHANGE.
- Mr Paul THORMANN, a Jewish emigrant from MUNICH, with whom Prisoner later founded REXOR Ltd.

Whilst in LONDON, he also became agent for the German sausage concern, HEINE & Co, HALBERSTADT. Prisoner had received a request from this firm's agent in HAMBURG to assist in finding an agent for the firm. Prisoner replied that he would be willing to take over the position himself, and that in order to come to an agreement to their mutual satisfaction, he would contact the firm on his next visit to GERMANY. Late summer 33 found Prisoner back in GERMANY, where he supervised the delivery of the LYONS order, which had to be done in copperplate printing by the HAMBURGER FREIENBLATT, as ZISCHKA's plant was unsuitable for the task.

During his stay in GERMANY, Prisoner visited HEINE & Co regarding his position as their rep in ENGLAND, and later he also obtained the agency for KUHNE & Co, ALTONA, mustard manufacturers.

4. 1934

In Feb 34, Prisoner returned to LONDON, where he shared a flat with Paul THORMANN at 12 Penbridge Gardens, LONDON W 2, a boarding house belonging to Ms MILDRIE. Prisoner remembers a Dutchman, VAN KETTWICH, and also a Miss EVANS, who were living at the boarding house at that time. Prisoner and VAN KETTWICH bought a second-hand car together, which they frequently used for pleasure trips into the country.

Early in 1934 Prisoner learned that ZISCHKA had committed suicide. Prisoner and THORMANN, at the suggestion of the latter, decided to start their own mirror firm in LONDON, and REXOR Ltd was established. THORMANN, who financed the business, paid Prisoner a weekly wage of £6. 10. 0. and allotted him 50% of the shares, which amounted to £50. Prisoner later sold the shares back to THORMANN. With the delivery of the LYONS order his connection with ZISCHKA's firm lapsed.

During his stay in LONDON in 1934, Prisoner became the rep of the following firms:-

- a) He was asked to look after the sale of a number of cash boxes belonging to the LONDON branch of a cash box firm in SANCY. Owing to financial difficulties, this branch was forced to close down.
- b) RÖTHLISBERGER & Sohn, a Swiss firm of cheese manufacturers. This firm applied for a rep in ENGLAND through the German Consulate in SOUTHAMPTON, and SCHARPF referred it to Prisoner.
- c) Through a member of the Aufsichtsrat of HEINE & Co, who was also a member of the Aufsichtsrat of the ENGELHARDT brewery in BERLIN, he became the rep in ENGLAND of this firm. In LONDON he contacted PILSNER URQUELL Ltd (Mr HEUMANN and Mr DIMITRIADIS), who agreed to buy WINTERHÜDER PILSNER, an ENGELHARDT product.

As Prisoner thought that he would soon be able to enlarge his business in ENGLAND, he rented an office at 12 (?) Bucklersbury, near the Royal Exchange, belonging to a certain Mr LOVELL. Shortly afterwards, when Prisoner decided to give up the office, he and Mr LOVELL disagreed in connection with certain goods, including a number of cash-boxes, which Prisoner had stored at the office.

Prisoner states that during this time, he saw SCHARFF only on his arrival and departure from SOUTHAMPTON. He did not have to depend on SCHARFF for his mail, as it was forwarded direct to his address in Pembridge Gardens. He had, however, some business leaflets printed for HEINE & Co and for himself in connection with German inventions and novelty productions and, with the approval of SCHARFF, added c/o German Consulate, Royal Mail Buildings, SOUTHAMPTON, which proved to be of good advertisement value to his business.

Being a member of the "Erfinderhaus" in HAMBURG, which handled the latest inventions in GERMANY Prisoner had for some time tried to sell some of the patents in ENGLAND. The patents related to kitchen utensils and children's toys. During 1934, this branch of his business improved considerably, as various British firms gradually began to produce German toys and kitchen utensils under licence. In this connection, Prisoner made several business deals with Mr PAGET of ASSOCIATED APPLIANCES Ltd. Furthermore, Prisoner had been advised by a friend of his, BREUKER, in HAMBURG, a member of the Reichseierverwertung (REV), to try to sell German eggs in ENGLAND. If the attempt proved fruitful, BREUKER also promised that Prisoner should have a good position at the REV. Consequently, he contacted the English egg importing firm KEVILL & KEVILL, Snowhill, Holborn, who agreed to buy any number of German eggs Prisoner could obtain for them. Prisoner informed the REV by telegram and was subsequently asked to come to BERLIN to discuss the matter. As a result, he travelled to BERLIN in Jun 34, and was given a position as Geschäftsführer at the REV in order first to gain working experience of the firm. In Oct 34, however, he was accused of embezzlement and the court case which followed dragged on until 1936, when Prisoner was at last acquitted. In the meantime, Prisoner had to stay in GERMANY, where he earned his living by conducting negotiations between the REV and the ROSSHAVEN cold storage depot in HAMBURG. The owners of this depot were the British firm BEHR & MATTHEW, and Prisoner concluded a lease agreement whereby the REV took over the depot for a number of years.

Prisoner had been asked by Paul THORMANN to purchase a stamping and punching machine in GERMANY; he therefore went to AUE in SAXONY, where he acquired such a machine from the KIRCHEIS machine factory. Here his British business card, which he had had specially printed in ENGLAND, giving the German Consulate in SOUTHAMPTON as his official postal address, proved to be of great help as far as the purchase and despatch of the machines were concerned.

After Prisoner's acquittal in 1936, he wanted to return to ENGLAND immediately, but, contrary to previous assurances given to him by the German authorities, he was then told that he could not take with him some £900 which he had had in his possession on his return from ENGLAND in 1934. This led to innumerable difficulties, as Prisoner had only a very small bank balance in ENGLAND. He therefore decided to go to ENGLAND for a few days some time in 1936 in order to arrange the return of a number of cash boxes and cheap jewellery, worth about £140, which were stored at the office of Mr LOVELL. Prisoner, however, could not trace Mr LOVELL and, as he had no money left, he was forced to return to GERMANY where he carried on his business as usual, representing various smaller firms in HAMBURG.

5. 1937

Prisoner paid yet another visit to ENGLAND in Aug-Sep 37, staying at 12 Pembridge Gardens. As he arrived practically penniless, and as the length of his stay depended mainly on his financial position, he immediately tried to contact Mr LOVELL to obtain the right of disposal of goods which he had tried to sell for the firms SCHMIDT and DROGE & MAIWALD in HAMBURG. Prisoner claims however, that he did not succeed in contacting LOVELL.

Prisoner was offered the use of the office premises of Mr PAGET of ASSOCIATED APPLIANCES Ltd free of charge, and in return PAGET was given first option on any German patents or novelties on the market. After about a fortnight, he returned to HAMBURG, where he intended to bring an action against LOVELL, but he was later advised by his solicitor not to do so, as the costs of the action would greatly exceed the value of the goods involved.

6. 1938

Prisoner, who for some years had been visiting the BIF, was not able to do so in spring 38 as he was expecting to be called up as a reserve officer for manoeuvres, in which he subsequently took part at HANOVER.

In summer 38, Prisoner again spent about four weeks in LONDON, where he tried in vain to contact LOVELL in order to bring about the return of his goods. He lived at 12 Pembroke Gardens and used the office premises of Mr PAGET, for whom he had again obtained some patents in HAMBURG. Prisoner also paid several visits to Mr WASSERMANN of the Royal Exchange and discussed with him various financial aspects of a DANUBE Steamship Concession which he had acquired from a Yugoslav acquaintance in LONDON, a certain Capt WEISS, manufacturer of mustard. In 1934, WEISS, who lived in UXBRIDGE with his English wife, and Prisoner were to have been neighbours, as Prisoner wanted to buy a house there. He did not do so, however, as the house was too large.

As far as Prisoner remembers, he again met SCHARPF only on his arrival and departure from SOUTHAMPTON and he also points out that their meetings were only brief and that the conversation was usually about business.

As Prisoner had only succeeded in obtaining about £40 in cash, he was obliged to return to HAMBURG after only four weeks in LONDON. On his return he continued working as rep of various small firms, the names of which he cannot remember. He returned to ENGLAND in Feb 39 and was searched and questioned by the British immigration authorities for some considerable time before he was allowed to pass through the barrier, where he was met by Miss DARGEL (See Appendix B). After visiting DARGEL in BOURNEMOUTH, he went to LONDON to visit the BIF. He had again obtained some patents for Mr PAGET, whom he met on several occasions. During conversation, Prisoner also told PAGET about his being searched and questioned by the immigration authorities; PAGET asked Prisoner to let him know if this should recur, promising that if it did, he would ask his uncle, Sir Samuel HOARE, to intervene.

Through Mr PAGET, Prisoner was introduced to several Jewish emigrants from GERMANY, amongst whom he remembers Roman HELLER from VIENNA, Herr SCHENKER of SCHENKER & Co, and Herr FEUCHTWANG, a banker from BERLIN. He also had discussions with Mr CAVENDER and Mr WASSERMANN regarding the DANUBE Steamship Concession.

Prisoner also visited his customers who bought his sausages and mustard and of whom he remembers the following:-

- Charing Cross Hotel and other rly hotels in LONDON.
- Various shops in Charlotte St.
- GAMAGES.
- SELFRIDGES.
- FORTNUM & MASON.
- ARMY & NAVY STORES.
- LYONS & Co, Cadby Hall.

Prisoner returned to HAMBURG in Mar 39 and did not visit ENGLAND again.

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APPENDIX B TO FR 104

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Maj Friedrich LIEBER

@ Dr Friedrich BAUER

APPENDIX B

PRISONER'S CONNECTIONS WITH SCHARPF, DARGEL AND KRAFFT

1. Prisoner firmly denies that he was in any way implicated in SCHARPF's alleged espionage activities. He claims to have met him on a commercial and social basis only, and the actual purpose of keeping in contact with SCHARPF (whom he considered uneducated, ill-behaved and self-indulgent) was his good connections. These gave Prisoner his initial introduction to ENGLAND and the opportunity to use the German Consulate in SOUTHAMPTON as his mailing address, which he found useful for his business in the UK.

Prisoner states that SCHARPF showed a surprisingly persistent interest in his business connections in ENGLAND. Prisoner, who knew that SCHARPF was an ardent Nazi, was afraid that he wanted to enquire into his commercial and social contacts with several prominent Jewish émigrés in LONDON. When SCHARPF tried to justify his interest in Prisoner's activities by showing him an oval-shaped SS badge under his lapel, Prisoner told him that there were certain matters which he could not discuss with anybody. Prisoner emphasises, however, that this remark had no foundation, and was meant only to put an end to SCHARPF's constant enquiries into his affairs. Prisoner met SCHARPF only on his arrival in or departure from SOUTHAMPTON, or on the few occasions when SCHARPF visited him in LONDON.

While Prisoner was in ENGLAND in summer 37, SCHARPF wanted him to meet a certain Miss DARGEL, a very wealthy woman, who SCHARPF thought would be a suitable wife for Prisoner. Prisoner, however, did not then have sufficient time or interest to meet DARGEL. In autumn of the following year he received a letter from SCHARPF asking him to look up DARGEL in BERLIN, where she was staying with her brother near the HOHENZOLLERNDAHM station (see para 4).

In May 39, a few months after his last visit to ENGLAND, Prisoner received a letter from SCHARPF telling him of his expulsion from ENGLAND. At that time SCHARPF was living with his father at STUTTGART, Fischerstr 10.

At end 41 or beg 42, while Prisoner was stationed in HANOVER, he received a telephone call from SCHARPF, who was then in the GAF Signals Service at HUSUM. Prisoner does not remember the gist of their conversation.

On a later occasion SCHARPF phoned once more. Prisoner told him that he was about to go on leave to PARIS, and arranged to meet SCHARPF there. During Prisoner's visit to PARIS, where he stayed at the Ambassadeurs Hotel, SCHARPF introduced him to an Argentine diplomat named FERNANDEZ, whom SCHARPF had previously met in ENGLAND. Prisoner and SCHARPF stayed in PARIS for about five days before returning to their units.

While Prisoner was stationed in HAMBURG, SCHARPF phoned him on one occasion and asked him to get him transferred to FRANCE. Prisoner was unable to do anything for him and after that he had no further contact with SCHARPF.

2. Prisoner's Meeting with RITTER and his subsequent Introduction to DARGEL

Prisoner states that he first met RITTER (ex-Prisoner DIC, CCG(BE)) some time in spring 38, when RITTER gave a lecture on the USA to a number of Reserve Offrs, including Prisoner, at the Genkdo HAMBURG. He finished his lecture by asking all offrs present who had business connections in ENGLAND to contact him, if they were about to travel to ENGLAND or if they had any infm of Abw interest. After this, Prisoner and RITTER met socially on a few occasions, and also in the Genkdo HAMBURG, where Prisoner often visited his friend Obstlt TIEMANN of II B.

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Prisoner thinks that after he received the letter from SCHARFF in autumn 38, asking him to look up DARGEL in BERLIN; he told RITTER about it. RITTER was interested from an Abw point of view and asked Prisoner to arrange a meeting. As Prisoner had to go to BERLIN on business shortly afterwards (end Oct 38 ?), he decided to visit DARGEL. He arrived to find that she was about to return to the UK by car, and he accepted an invitation to accompany her to HANOVER. Prisoner believes that he arranged by telephone for RITTER to meet them in HANOVER.

Prisoner met RITTER in HANOVER at KRÖPKE's Restaurant, in the company of RITTER's brother and another person, probably Lt SCHARSCHMIDT (I L Ast HAMBURG). DARGEL was waiting in the Bürgerbräukeller and eventually they all went to the Rote Mühle. Prisoner does not know whether RITTER tried to recruit DARGEL for Abw work. DARGEL continued her journey the same evening and Prisoner and RITTER travelled to HAMBURG together.

At beg Feb 39, while Prisoner was still in HAMBURG, he received an invitation from DARGEL to visit her and her mother in BOURNEMOUTH. When he arrived in SOUTHAMPTON shortly afterwards, he was surprised to find DARGEL waiting with her car at the quayside. Prisoner states that he had not informed her of his arrival, as he did not intend to visit her until after his visit to LONDON, and he can therefore only suggest that SCHARFF must have told DARGEL of his movements. He always kept SCHARFF informed of his arrival in UK.

DARGEL insisted that Prisoner should accompany her to BOURNEMOUTH as her guest and Prisoner reluctantly accepted the invitation. In BOURNEMOUTH he met Mrs KRAFFT, her "adoptive mother" for the first time. He stayed with them only for a few days, however, as he disapproved of the relations between DARGEL and Mrs KRAFFT. When Prisoner was returning to GERMANY in Mar 39 he met DARGEL and KRAFFT on the ship in SOUTHAMPTON. As far as Prisoner remembers, DARGEL intended to visit her brother in BERLIN.

Prisoner cannot give any further info on DARGEL and KRAFFT, whom he did not meet again.

The circumstances of Prisoner's meeting with RITTER and subsequent introduction to DARGEL have been confirmed by RITTER, who adds that when he met DARGEL in HANOVER he asked her to look him up in HAMBURG if she was interested in Abw work. DARGEL contacted him after her expulsion from ENGLAND. DARGEL did not tell RITTER of her expulsion and she was at first taken on as a "Forscher" and her case given to Lt SCHARSCHMIDT (I L Ast HAMBURG), who acquired a small cottage for her and her adoptive mother in the outskirts of HAMBURG. Shortly afterwards RITTER learned of DARGEL's expulsion and immediately dropped her. Later, SCHARSCHMIDT got her an office job in HAMBURG and some time in winter 39 she went to BERLIN to work as secretary in the German Air Ministry.

RITTER states that SCHARSCHMIDT left the Abw after only a few months' service and went to the RHINELAND as Fürsorgeoffz. RITTER does not know his present whereabouts.

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APPENDIX C TO FR 104

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@ Dr Friedrich BAUER

APPENDIX C

PRISONER'S ABW ACTIVITIES

A. AST HAMBURG

1. Prisoner states that he was called up for military service on 5 Jun 39 and sent to Gen Kdo HAMBURG, who immediately posted him to Ast HAMBURG (at that time called Gruppe 1c AO) under Maj i G BELLENTHIN. Shortly afterwards Prisoner was assigned to Referat I L under Hptm RITTER, under whom he received his initial Abw training.

B. AST KIEL

2. Prisoner was posted to Ast KIEL on 15 Jul 39. The Leiter of Ast KIEL at that time was Korv Kap von MÜHLENDahl. Prisoner was assigned to Referat I M under Kap Lt Dr ROTH.

3. Contacts Abroad via Neutral Countries

During this time Prisoner tried unsuccessfully to make contacts through neutral countries with BRITAIN and AMERICA in order to gain infm on their Air Forces. Prisoner installed Landwirtschaftsrat Carl SCHOTTEN in PLÖN as a recruiter of Danish V-men, but this man met with no success. Prisoner also made contact with a German horse dealer, who used to bring SHETLAND ponies from BRITAIN to GERMANY. It was Prisoner's idea to send this man to DREIHLIN as an agent, but the plan eventually fell through.

4. Contacts Abroad through Personal Friends

Prisoner went to HAMBURG several times, trying to make contacts with friends who had good connections in BRITAIN and USA.

He remembers the following people in whom he confided:-
Dr Walter MOSICH, solicitor, HAMBURG 9 (committed suicide);
Heinrich WOITZ, trader, Süderstr, HAMBURG (killed in an air raid);
Obst TIEMANN, Gen Kdo X, HAMBURG (shipping official).

Prisoner states that he never obtained any infm through these potential sources. WOITZ's special task was visiting the dock areas, restaurants and cafés frequented by international variety artists, with a view to recruiting them as agents. Prisoner was put in touch with a number of actors and actresses after his transfer to BERLIN, but these contacts proved to be unsuitable.

5. Other Duties

Prisoner was responsible for the card-indexing of int reports from Feste Horchstelle H in HUSUM and for the evaluation of newspaper cuttings from Swedish, Norwegian, Danish and Finnish papers.

index
Baroness von SEESEN

Prisoner states that when he was returning in summer 39 from VIENNA where he had tried in vain to contact a former business colleague, Hans LANGE, whom he wanted to recruit as a Forscher, he accidentally made the acquaintance of Baroness von SEESEN, who was on her way to SCOTLAND, where she intended to visit her daughter and some old friends. Prisoner, who introduced himself as Dr Friedrich BAUER, succeeded in recruiting her as a Forscher, and she was also given the task of collecting infm on shipping movements in THURSO and in KIRKWALL, LYNESS and STROMNESS in the ORKNEYS. In addition, she was asked to collect infm on airfields under construction.

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Von SEESEN returned shortly before the war with fairly good results on airfield and shipping in the ORKNEYS. She also had some photographs of harbours installations at KIRKWALL and STROMNESS. Prisoner is certain that she was not equipped with a WT set.

Von SEESEN lived in a good-class private hotel in BERLIN, Joachimthaler Str, Pension Rittmeister von WEISSENBORN. Prisoner later wanted to get in touch with her, but was told at the hotel that she had left. He later heard that she had been killed in a railway accident, but he was unable to verify this.

7. SCHRADER

Prisoner first met Frl SCHRADER in 1927 in HAMBURG, where she was working as secretary in the GARTMANN chocolate factory. During the next years she was an intimate friend of Prisoner. In Jul/Aug 39, after Prisoner had joined the Abw, he intended to use her address in HAMBURG-KLEIN FLOTTBEK (exact address forgotten) as a cover address, but as SCHRADER was unwilling to have anything to do with the GIS, he gave up the idea. Prisoner denies having used SCHRADER on int work in ENGLAND, where, according to Prisoner, she has never been.

8. Transfer to Ast BERLIN

As a result of various disagreements with ROTH, Prisoner was transferred to Ast III BERLIN on 9 Oct 39.

C. AST BERLIN

9. Here, Prisoner worked under the Leiter of the Ast, Obst DRUSSATIS, and the Leiter I, Obstlt ROSENRETER, who was also Referent I L.

After several weeks of inactivity he was given the following tasks:-

- a) Interviewing and recruiting German business men for int assignments abroad.
- b) Recruiting of variety artists for int assignments abroad.
- c) The establishment of good relations with foreign diplomats with the object of obtaining infm of int value.

10. Recruiting of Business Men

In this task, Prisoner collaborated with Hptm PETERSEN, a colleague in Abw III. The Ast was always kept informed by the Wehmeldeamt of persons intending to travel abroad. On some pretext such a person was visited in his office or at some other suitable place. If the person proved to be agreeable and suitable, he was given a small task and was also asked to find, amongst his acquaintances abroad, a recruiter of agents for the Abw. Prisoner states that, on the whole, these people were mostly unsuitable for Abw work, but they were nevertheless asked in the interest of the Reich to pay attention to anything which could possibly be of Abw interest. Prisoner prepared a summary of each interview, which was submitted to the Ast Leiter. Details of the meeting were entered in the diary. In the case of persons returning from abroad by aircraft, Prisoner was immediately informed by the Lufthansa. Prisoner remembers the following persons brought to his notice through the Wehmeldeamt or the OKW.

(a) TEIGEN

This man, who travelled from time to time on business to SWEDEN, was brought to Prisoner's notice by the Wehmeldeamt. During Prisoner's activity in BERLIN, he travelled at least six times to SWEDEN with the Abw's permission, producing a report on his journey on each occasion. The reports consisted of general observations on Swedish customs and police control. TEIGEN lived somewhere near CRANIENBURG.

b) August BREUER

Prisoner contacted BREUER through the Wehmeldeamt. He was a German who lived with his parents in GRUNEWALD and had a publishing business in BERLIN. His brother was said to be manager of a chemical or paint factory in PARIS and a third brother was serving in the Ausw Amt. BREUER made several journeys to PARIS, but produced no useful infm. Prisoner is of the opinion that BREUER was an opportunist working only for his own comfort.

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c) Johannes (?) SCHMIDT

Through BREUER, Prisoner met SCHMIDT, a German merchant who had lived in ENGLAND until shortly before the war and was said to be married to an Englishwoman in LONDON. He had left ENGLAND for HOLLAND, where he had waited quite a long time for his wife. As she did not appear, he went to BERLIN to live with his old sisters, who had some property in the Kaiser Allee. SCHMIDT claimed to know a Dutchman in HOLLAND who would be in a position to establish some good contacts in ENGLAND. Prisoner wished this man to be sent to ENGLAND at the expense of the Abw; nothing came of the matter, however, as he could not get a British visa. The connection with SCHMIDT was then broken off.

d) Hans (?) LOIBE

Prisoner contacted LOIBE, a commercial rep, through the Wehrmeldeamt. He had several good connections in HOLLAND, who seemed suitable to operate as agents in ENGLAND. None of them, however, succeeded in getting a British visa. Prisoner is under the impression that LOIBE, who was sent to HOLLAND twice, was only interested in dealing in the black market. The reports and plans which he submitted were mostly fictitious and Prisoner dropped him. LOIBE lived somewhere in BERLIN-SCHÖNEBERG.

e) Hans Karl MÜLLER

MÜLLER really worked only for Obstlt ROSENRETER when Prisoner first came to BERLIN. He was married, with several children, and was a business man. MÜLLER showed himself willing to work for Prisoner's department and, as he travelled to HOLLAND frequently and had good connections there, Prisoner had high hopes of him, but it soon became clear that MÜLLER was primarily interested in his business and in sending food to GERMANY. Prisoner eventually decided to drop him.

f) Dr ROCK

Prisoner states that he devoted a great deal of time to this man, a dentist by profession, who had invented a new type of synthetic filling. Prisoner got to know ROCK through the Wehrmeldeamt and he prevented him being called up, as ROCK was still working on his invention. It was his idea that when his invention was ready for production, which was likely to be soon, the Abw would control the sending of reps abroad, as well as the export of the material, and thus create a network of agents. Prisoner does not know what eventually happened to ROCK as he had to leave the Abw, but he later heard that ROCK and his wife had been unmasked as impostors and had been imprisoned. ROCK lived in TELTOW.

g) Bela BAUMA

This man, a Hungarian, was the rep of an international directory firm (HQ in LONDON) for GERMANY, SWITZERLAND and HUNGARY. Prisoner had heard that his printing firm, which was run by some friends or relatives of his wife, a Jewess, intended to sell their interests to SWITZERLAND. It was intended to buy these interests for the Abw and appoint Abw agents as reps, but, after negotiations in SWITZERLAND, BAUMA returned and asked for an exaggerated price amounting to several thousand pounds sterling. No agreement was reached and contact with BAUMA was dropped.

h) Horst OBERMÜLLER

The OKW brought to Prisoner's notice a certain Horst OBERMÜLLER, a director of an important oil section in the Fuel Div. He was a former naval officer. One of his former acquaintances, who Prisoner believes was a British journalist of Lithuanian origin, had written to him from SWITZERLAND, and OBERMÜLLER accordingly offered, with the assistance of the Abw, to go to SWITZERLAND to meet this man and possibly extract some info of int value from him. After many difficulties, a medical certificate was obtained in spring 41 permitting OBERMÜLLER to travel to SWITZERLAND for health reasons. According to Prisoner, OBERMÜLLER wrote quite a comprehensive report after his return, which described the attitude of certain British offr circles towards GERMANY. Prisoner deduced from the report that peace feelers would have been welcomed by some British circles, if there were a suitable party in GERMANY to put them forward. OBERMÜLLER's report was sent straight to the OKW in its original form. Prisoner did not see OBERMÜLLER again.

i) Avraan DIMITOGLOV

Shortly afterwards, Prisoner was given the task of looking after a Turk (possible Greek) named Avraan DIMITOGLOV, who had formerly lived with his wife in DRESDEN, where he had a cigarette factory. He came into conflict with the local Gauleiter, MUTSCHMANN, and was expelled. He subsequently moved to ATHENS with his wife.

As DIMITOGLOV was said to have an exceptionally good knowledge of the harbours of the BLACK SEA and the surrounding territory, Obstlt ROSENTRETER intended to employ him against RUSSIA. On the instructions of the Ausw Amt, DIMITOGLOV was allowed by the Embassy in ATHENS to come to GERMANY.

The intention was to employ DIMITOGLOV as a Meldekopf in TURKEY against RUSSIA, but as MUTSCHMANN was not to be informed of this journey, DIMITOGLOV was allowed to stay for four weeks only and had to leave before ROSENTRETER had had time to train him and give him specific tasks. As Prisoner was responsible for looking after him during his stay in GERMANY, he also had to arrange for his return journey. Prisoner succeeded after much difficulty in sending him to VARNA in BULGARIA, and believes that from there he went to TURKEY. Prisoner was not able to arrange for him to return to ATHENS.

j) Emil ALBRECHT

In HAMBURG, Prisoner met an old friend of his from the last war, Emil ALBRECHT living in Papauer Str. Although very strongly opposed in their political views, they were none the less friends. Prisoner confided to him his duties in BERLIN and asked him to find him Forscher. Prisoner states, however, that ALBRECHT was too absorbed in his business, and he obtained no results from him.

11. Recruiting of Variety Artists

In his search for artists of international ^{repute} who might be employed as agents, Prisoner employed a certain WOITH (see para 4). From time to time, WOITH sent him long lists of addresses in HAMBURG. Prisoner went there on several occasions to interview these artists, but never found a suitable person. Although he became acquainted with Rosita SERRANO, Margot SYMO, Hans JUNCKERMANN and the dancing pair RUTH and USET, he was never able to devote adequate time to fostering these connections, and no results were obtained.

12. Contacts with Foreign Diplomats

Prisoner states that another of his tasks was to establish good relations with foreign diplomats with the object of obtaining infm of int value; in this he maintains he was quite unsuccessful. The original idea was to pick up all possible infm from such persons either through women or directly, and to establish a close acquaintance with them in order to get visas and passports for agents in return for a suitable reward.

The first foreign diplomat whom Prisoner met was the former Chilean Consul in BREMEN and HAMBURG, DA COSTABAL. Prisoner believes that his attention was drawn to him by the currency office in HAMBURG, since COSTABAL had committed serious currency offences and was about to be expelled. DA COSTABAL was summoned to BERLIN and it was explained to him that the confiscation of his property would be held in abeyance if he undertook to supply the Abw with infm on production figures of the CURTISS Works in the USA, where he was said to have good connections, and on the instructors and flying personnel for the aircraft produced at the works. In return for this, COSTABAL was to be allowed to keep half of his property. Prisoner states that COSTABAL agreed to the proposal, but was never heard of again after he left GERMANY in 1941.

DA COSTABAL introduced Prisoner to Rosita SERRANO, through whom he met the Chilean Ambassador, Col BARROS, and the Mexican Consul General in HAMBURG, GUERRA. Prisoner also became acquainted with the Liberian representative, Mr CAMPBELL, but he does not remember the exact circumstances.

In order to entertain the Consular representatives of the Central and South American states whom he had got to know, Prisoner tried to obtain a certain villa in the Kronprinzen Allee, but the OKW did not give their official consent because the plan was too expensive. /v

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13. Agents intended for AFRICA

In summer 40, Prisoner heard for the first time of the intention of the OKW to send agents to AFRICA, when he was instructed to acquaint himself thoroughly with the African sphere and to consider the possibilities and ways of obtaining air int there. He was also instructed to look after the adm side of agents intended for AFRICA. He came into contact with the following agents:-

a) Von KOTZE

Prisoner states that the first agent allotted to him in late summer or early autumn 40 was Friedrich Karl (?) von KOTZE. He does not remember exactly how he first came into contact with KOTZE, but he believes it was through a former female secretary of the OKW, Els SECHTEM, who apparently knew KOTZE well. KOTZE was said to be married to a daughter of a former Australian sheep farmer in RHODESIA, and was then living in the Bavarian quarter of BERLIN in the house of a Herr FRANTZIUS.

Von KOTZE was trained in WT procedure by Ast STETTIN, where he stayed for several months until early summer 41 (?). He later received special WT trg at STAHNSDORF. He was instructed in the use of secret inks by Hptm WERNICKE and by the OKW itself in microphotography, receiving appropriate photographic apparatus and a short-wave transmitter. He was to take the camera with him; the transmitter was to be first sent to PORTUGAL, whence onward transport was to be arranged by the OKW. Von KOTZE's assignment was to establish himself in CAPETOWN or some other suitable place as a dealer in skins and to start a Meldekopf. He was to recruit agents himself as soon as he was established. Prisoner states that the most difficult part was to get a South African Passport. For this purpose, it was decided to give him \$ 1000 and send him to SOUTH AFRICA via ARGENTINA, where he was to buy a passport. In ARGENTINA he was also to contact a friend of his, the owner of a large slaughterhouse and vast herds of cattle. He was then to arrange his own journey to SOUTH AFRICA from there, if possible as commercial representative of his Argentine friend. He was later to collect a WT set from an agent (name unknown) in LOURENCO MARQUES. A passage was booked for him in an aircraft of the Italian LATTI Line and he left ROME in May 41.

Prisoner states that he knows only the assignments given to von KOTZE by I L, but he thinks that Obst Lt ROSENRETER probably gave him other assignments.

His duties were to report the following:-

- (i) Chief RIF locations in the Union of SOUTH AFRICA.
- (ii) Location of trg camps.
- (iii) What auxiliary personnel (Australians, Canadians, etc) were being trained in these camps and in what subjects.
- (iv) Types and number of trg aircraft.
- (v) What harbours in SOUTH AFRICA were being used for RAF supplies.
- (vi) What airfields were being used for RAF supplies.
- (vii) What supplies were being accumulated.
- (viii) What factories were making aircraft parts in SOUTH AFRICA. Location and number of workers.
- (ix) Which air route to the NORTH was used from SOUTH AFRICA and which were the principal airfields.
- (x) To what extent the US Air Force was using South African installations.

Von KOTZE had to memorise all these questions. It was anticipated that he should be in contact with STAHNSDORF after three months. Prisoner, who left about a month later, heard nothing more about him.

Prisoner claims that during this period he started to write a novel entitled "Was ich als Dr B erlebte", relating the adventures of an Abw offr in CHERBOURG and in ENGLAND, and that he read extracts of this novel to von KOTZE, whom he often invited to his flat in BERLIN. Prisoner states that he has forgotten the gist of the story, which he never finished, but he thinks it quite possible that von KOTZE wrongly assumed that Dr B was in fact none other than Prisoner himself (Prisoner had not been stimulated by any suggestion that Von KOTZE had given infm on his activities, when he made this statement).

extraction and of Belgian nationality. This man was intended for the BELGIAN CONGO. Prisoner, however, never dealt directly with him and he was told when, after two or three days' try, KOPFER did not turn up again, that he had been dropped, as he was unsuitable for the task. Prisoner believes that he had been employed until the outbreak of the war in some Belgian copper mines.

c) Dr JANOSZ

At beg May 41, Prisoner was instructed to go to BUDAPEST to interview a certain Hungarian, Dr JANOSZ, with the object of recruiting him as an agent.

Prisoner, who does not know how this man was actually discovered was told that, if JANOSZ should prove suitable and willing, he was to bring him back to BERLIN to discuss further details. JANOSZ, whom Prisoner met at the DANUBE Hotel in BUDAPEST, proved to be a most willing candidate and shortly afterwards he and his wife accompanied Prisoner to BERLIN.

It was intended to employ JANOSZ as chief V-man and observer on the road running through the northern part of BELGIAN CONGO to EGYPT, but during the ensuing discussion JANOSZ made heavy demands. He requested a sum of money for his wife, to be paid in advance, equivalent to his private income for the preceding year, viz about RM 2,400 a month. In addition, he wanted a second case of surgical instruments, as he intended to go out as a mission doctor, a post which he had held many years before in the CONGO. He also wanted to be paid in advance for two journeys, one to BRUSSELS and one to the Pope in ROME. Prisoner states that these conditions were too costly for the OKW and Dr JANOSZ was dropped. He and his wife travelled back to BUDAPEST and Prisoner never heard of him again.

d) BECKERS and JACQUELINE

Prisoner states that in Feb 41, on the orders of the OKW, he was given the task of collecting a certain BECKERS from BRUSSELS. As far as Prisoner remembers, BECKERS was a chemist or a dispenser by profession, who lived in PARIS. Prisoner spent a few days in BRUSSELS but, owing to various complications, was not able to take BECKERS away. BECKERS was later brought to BERLIN. He was given WT try at his boarding house (see para 14). As far as Prisoner knows, BECKERS was a former Government employee in the CONGO, and the plan was to use him as a Meldekopf in the neighbourhood of the road through the Northern part of the CONGO to EGYPT. He was to be equipped with a WT transmitter. The OKW ordered him to proceed via PORTUGAL and LOANDA to MARADI; a route which Prisoner considered dangerous on account of the close watch kept by the British Navy.

It was later decided that BECKERS should travel with JACQUELINE, a young Frenchwoman from PARIS who had been picked from a women's prison for Abw work. Prisoner does not know any details. JACQUELINE was to work with BECKERS, but he refused to consent to this. As JACQUELINE proved to be unreliable and untruthful, it was decided to send her back to the women's prison in BERLIN.

Prisoner states that he did not see BECKERS after 13 Jun 41, when he was sent to Ast HANOVER, but heard later that in SPAIN he had escaped from the offr whom ROSENRETER had ordered to accompany him until he sailed.

14. MECKLENBURG

Prisoner states that a certain MECKLENBURG owned a boarding house on the Kurfürstendamm, named WILHELMA or something similar, in which Abw III were able to accommodate various agents without reporting them to the police. Here Prisoner accommodated foreign agents such as JANOSZ, DIMITOGLOV and BECKERS. Prisoner never met MECKLENBURG personally.

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with Obstlt BRUSSATIS he was told that he would be discharged from the Abw. On 13 Jun 41 he was given a temporary posting to Ast HANOVER Abw III under Obstlt FICHT. His Referatsleiter Maj Prof LEVIN from GÖTTINGEN University instructed him in Abw III work. Prisoner eventually did investigation of cases of political subversion and sabotage. He states that he never dealt with any important cases while he was in HANOVER. In Sep 42 he was assigned to Ic Luftgau IX HAMBURG and his connection with the Abw ceased.

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