

VIA: COURIER
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DISPATCH NO. EG1-A-21432

SECRET
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TO : Chief, EE

DATE: 15 November 1956

FROM : Chief of Base, Pullach

INFO: COS, BONN, FOB

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Operational/UPSWING/CART/LCIMPROVE

SPECIFIC— CARETINA and Dr. Waldemar LENTZ

REFS : A. EGFA-13091, 24 October 1956
B. EGFA-13185, 31 October 1956

F. PANNWITZ [] (ur)
F. CARTINA

- ACTION REQUIRED:
- a. All Addressees: Names traces on (Dr.) Waldemar LENTZ, born 2 December 1909 in Darmstadt, Germany; Waldemar LENCIS, born 7 November 1907 in Jelgava near Riga, Latvia; and/or all information which would assist in positive identification of these individuals.
 - b. EE Only: Forward copies of the postwar debriefings of Paris Ast personnel connected with EQUAL investigations cited in paragraph 2.f., below.

1. On 7 November 1956, [] discussed the CARETINA case with @ RISCHKE of the UPSWING CE staff. @ RISCHKE offered the following information:

a. CARETINA was in a hospital in Bonn suffering from an extremely serious heart condition; this condition was so serious, in fact, that it was possible that he would not recover. There was some speculation in UPSWING that CARETINA had actually been in line for liquidation by the SRIS and had been poisoned by them. This idea apparently has been fostered by an article which recently came to UPSWING's attention and which describes an SRIS disposal method using a poison which makes death appear to be due to a heart attack; allegedly, no traces of the poison can be detected during medical examination. In this connection, @ RISCHKE stated that CARETINA had been associating with a journalist named LENTZ, who well may have poisoned him on SRIS instructions. [] however, expressed extreme skepticism and pointed out that even if CARETINA were an SRIS agent who had stepped out of line, he probably would first receive a warning, which, however, might then have the effect of inducing a heart attack. @ RISCHKE admitted that the poison theory was merely speculation and that no evidence of poison had been found. Nevertheless, UPSWING was attempting to recruit CARETINA's physician and hoped to elicit more information from this source.

POB Comment: Although @ RISCHKE has often stated that CARETINA was the picture of robust health when he emerged from Soviet

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captivity, paragraph 6 of Reference A indicates that he was showing symptoms of his impending heart attack early in October 1956.

b. @ RISCHKE stated that LENTZ had been a member of CARETINA's "Sonderkommando" during World War II, serving as a radio operator. CARETINA had already taken up his contact with LENTZ when he was recruited by UPSWING.

POB Comment: Paragraph 4 of the Attachment to EGQA-81163, 17 August 1956, indicates that CARETINA was planning such a contact during the time he was being debriefed by []

At the present time, LENTZ is collaborating with CARETINA in producing a book on EQUAL. @ RISCHKE stated further that LENTZ seems to have done some previous writing on this subject. @ RISCHKE also stated that LENTZ had made contact with an UPSWING office in Bonn (or near Bonn) through the Bundespresseamt, but that he (@ RISCHKE) had put a stop to any UPSWING relations with LENTZ because of the derogatory information on file at UPSWING Headquarters. @ RISCHKE stated flatly that LENTZ was not employed by UPSWING. However, he allegedly worked for the French IS in addition to having tried to sell his services to most of the other Western services.

POB Comment: @ RISCHKE is obviously referring to Waldemar LENCZ, @ LENCZ, Waldemar, @ LENTZ, Walter Otto Hermann; born 7 November 1907 in Jelgava near Riga (or 2 December 1909 in Darmstadt, Germany); married; journalist and radio reporter; in 1950 reported to be living in Italy; blacklisted on 17 February 1955 by the French IS, which considered him to be a "dangerous adventurer, swindler, and multiple agent who will work for the highest bidder." (EGQA-60159, 31 March 1955.) On 2 September 1955, EGLA-15732 was sent to COS requesting further clarification of the identity of LENTZ; specifically, POB wished to know whether COS had any information which would confirm that Dr. Otto Hermann Walter Waldemar LENTZ, born 2 December 1909, described as "an EQUAL survivor who had formerly worked for the German intercept service" was identical with the subject of the blacklist. No answer was ever received from COS.

[] expressed the opinion that CARETINA had been poorly advised in his collaboration with LENTZ, that his first interest should be to work with UPSWING and at the same time collect material for his book on EQUAL, and that he should most certainly stay away from unsavory hacks such as LENTZ.

2. POB efforts to obtain further information on LENTZ (exclusive of a request to UPSWING) have not been too productive. [] recalls that a person with this name, known as a notorious pamphleteer, had written some violent pro-Arab diatribes against the Israelis and had also come to the attention of the BfV as a right-wing radical. However, a check of several Munich bookstores and the card catalogues (on authors and periodical literature) in the Bavarian State library have failed to reveal any positive information on the nature of LENTZ's journalistic activities. The following constitute POB traces on persons with this name (U. S. Files only):

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me
Waldemar LENCZ
Darmstadt
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a. MGH-2020, 24 October 1947: Johannes HAAS-HEYE informed CAMPER that he had recently seen LENTZ, formerly of the German Intercept Service. LENTZ had talked with Guenther WEISENBORN, from whom he had learned that the Russians had approached WEISENBORN and asked him to keep in touch with his former German EQUAL contacts.

b. MGKA-1023, 6 May 1948: HAAS-HEYE gives CAMPER information on Dr. Waldemar Otto LENTZ (EE or Karlsruhe Comment: Dr. Otto Hermann Walter Waldemar LENTZ, born 2 December 1909 in Darmstadt, is not to be confused with Dr. Otto LENZ, former State Secretary for Internal Affairs in the Federal Chancellory, born 6 July 1903 in Wetzlar.)

c. SMYOPIA File Document, 27 October 1944: HAAS-HEYE was employed by Radio Mundial which was headed by LENTZ, fnu.

d. TX-630, 11 October 1945: HAAS-HEYE was assistant to Dr. O. LENTZ who was chief of the Berlin office of the news bureau Radio Mundial (founded in 1941). Radio Mundial was in a general sense the illegitimate offspring of the DNB; RIBBENTROP was responsible for securing the funds.

POB Comment: The preceding information was forwarded to POB in EGLW-1309, 9 February 1955.

e. SMOTH Study of EQUAL, Second Report, Volume I: Otto Hermann LENTZ, an official of the Cipher Section of the OKH, was interrogated on German handling of EQUAL. LENTZ was "arrested on suspicion" at the same time as Horst HEILMANN and Alfred TRAXL, both of whom were also working in the Cipher Section of the OKH. HEILMANN and TRAXL were eventually convicted of espionage (HEILMANN was executed, TRAXL was sent to a concentration camp), but LENTZ was released.

f. PULL Cable, 14 June 1956, Handcarried to FROB on 15 June 1956: "Postwar debriefings of Paris Ast personnel available Washington on: Rolf Werner RICHTER, Waldemar LENTZ, Hans KURFESS, Horst KOPKOW, Walter HABECKER, Willy BERG. "CARETINA associate Dr. Otto Hermann Waldemar LENTZ, born 2 December 1909, Darmstadt, journalist, long-time pre-war Russian contacts involved SCHULZE-BOYSEN group of EQUAL Berlin. Arrested 1942, released, assigned to CARETINA . . . at end of war LENTZ again suspected of RIS connection."

3. In conclusion, @ RISCHKE stated that shortly before his illness, CARETINA had started to talk to UPSWING and had provided them with very interesting information. One such item was the fact that CARETINA's personal radio operator from this World War II "Sonderkommando" had been located by CARETINA; this person had been living in Vienna and working as a radio operator for the police. Although @ RISCHKE did not provide any other biographic data on this man, POB will definitely try to identify him in the near future.

Approved by: _____

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