

FOR Heinrich Josef REISER File

WCLA-3036, Para 2 - 17 August 1950

2. Rote Kapelle: A house guest at the inn since May has been Heinrich REISE (2661) former Kriminalkommissar (cf WCLA-1901). He was actually hustled there by SEIDL, who did not want any further CIC interference with REISE's activity in the Rote Kapelle field for OFFSPRING. In 1941-42, REISE, as RSHA, was in Paris as operational chief of Rote Kapelle (with Lt. Colonel ROULEBERG, Alwehr, directing deception material from Berlin, through Lt. Colonel REITE, Wehr, in Paris, thus, together with all the old radio intercept specialists who used to work on the case now to be found in the 236 fold, pigging in a fair bit of Rote Kapelle into OFFSPRING's).

a. It is REISE who personally captured the "Grand Chef" Gilbert Otto TREPPER, in a dentist's chair in Paris, and sat him for about nine months. It is REISE who, with Gilbert's assistance, captured Henry ROBINSON in a Paris cafe late in December 1942. In 1943, REISE was transferred back to Germany, with Panwitz taking over the Rote Kapelle Paris assignment. (REISE states Gilbert managed to escape soon after PANWITZ took over). After the war, REISE was delivered to the French on an extradition request. Up to June 1949 he sat in the Cherche midi jail in Paris, being deported on the Rote Kapelle by the French. When he was released, the Germans in Karlsruhe promptly put him in jail again (as an RSHA personality). When he was released in April 1950, he was immediately picked up by SEIDL, but with CIC and the British (cf WCLA-6233) also hot on the trail, and all eager for the same thing, REISE's Rote Kapelle knowledge.

b. REISE is now devoting his full time to a recapitulation of all he remembers about the case; several elaborate charts have been prepared, and his reports, running to some 150 pages, should be ready in October. REISE and SEIDL feel there is enough current operational activity in the Rote Kapelle field to warrant OFFSPRING's submitting a developmental project based on it, after the long study has been submitted and studied by OFFSPRING and its American supporters. REISE now regrets that he burned his own files on the case in Karlsruhe in 1945 and that two additional trunkfuls he sent to Tauber-Bischofsheim were burned there by PANWITZ.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY