

SECRET

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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APPENDIX B

RINAGEL/MATUSCHEK

1. The Soviet agents RINAGEL and MATUSCHEK were apprehended near Dreiflugen by the Germans on 15 February 1945. MATUSCHEK was killed at the time of the arrest and only RINAGEL could be interrogated by the FUNKABWEHR staff.

2. Karl RINAGEL was born 12 February 1918 in Vienna, son of Anton and Anna nee LETZ who resided at Heimbürgerstr. 48, Vienna. He was single, Roman Catholic, private first class in the German Army and former P/W in the USSR. In the German Army RINAGEL had been trained as an airplane radio operator and assigned to a JU 88. On his first mission against the Soviets, the plane was shot down and he and the rest of the crew taken prisoner on 22 June 1941.

3. RINAGEL was moved from a camp near Lemberg to a camp in the Ukraine and finally was taken to the Ela-Buga Camp No. 95 about 400 km. Northeast of Kasan. At the latter camp he remembered an instructor named NOVAK from Berlin who gave lectures consisting of Communist propaganda. From Camp No. 95, he was taken to a small house in the forest 20/30 km. outside of Moscow where he was billeted with seven companions who had offered to serve communism. The names of the seven were: Karl KRAUSSENECKER, PFC, book printer from Vienna, later deceased; Rolf DIESSING, PFC, office worker from Berlin; Heinz PRIEMER, PFC, tradesman from Berlin; Günther HEIDELBERG, Non-Com. air force radio operator from the Rhineland. RINAGEL and HEIDELBERG received radio training from a Red Army 1st Lt. whom RINAGEL described as a German in Soviet uniform.

4. For unexplained reasons the radio training was stopped and the entire group shipped to the Krasnogorsk Camp, near Moscow. There RINAGEL attended the ANTIFA school and remembered one Comrade MISCHER who was an instructor. Next he was taken to Gomal with Felix SCHEUER of Hamburg and Hugo BERGMANN. In Gomal he worked on the production of pamphlets to be dropped on the Germany Army. His teachers were a Soviet Captain, "Comrade VIKTOR" and a woman, 1st. Lt., "Comrade DINA".

5. RINAGEL was moved from place to place until September 1944 when his radio training was resumed in the vicinity of Moscow. He also met Josef MATUSCHEK, his team captain, at that time. The training lasted until the end of December. The team was furnished with forged documents: German Army pass and mustering-out papers; identity card; a pass for the Herman Goering works and other industrial passes. RINAGEL was assigned the code name RINDER, and MATUSCHEK the name MACEK. The forged documents were made out in the names of Karl POLLINGER and Anton RIEDL. The drop occurred at 2200 hours, 14 February 1945. The arrest was attributed to a girl who saw the team hiding their parachutes and equipment. Their mission was to proceed to Vienna and transmit by radio information on new railway lines, rail traffic, lines of defense, morale and attitude of the population. A play-back operation was planned for RINAGEL.

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9

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