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DISPATCH NO. MOL-1-6533

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CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, Foreign Division H

DATE: 2 May 1951

FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe *Amie*

SUBJECT: GENERAL - Operational

SPECIFIC - CARTILAGE (ZIPPER - OVH)

REF : MOL-1-6065 (not to BOB)

1. BOB is asked to note para. 11 f, below.
2. On 18 April 1951 MAURER and            went to the ZIPPER school at Backnang, near Stuttgart, and there held a CARTILAGE conference with the following persons:
  - a. V-7003, deputy leader of OV H (cover names: Hans Joachim YELIN and Jan JUNO).
  - b. V-7025, in charge of CE on the OV H staff (cover names: Hans BERGMANN, Hans SCHEIB, Hans SCHEIN, and Hans SCHUEDERT).
  - c. V-2001, leader of BV 60 (cover names: Franz BECKER, Hans von SALDERN, and Hans BREHNS).
  - d. V-2002, staff member of BV 60 (cover names: Richard BALL and Hans BEBOK).
  - e. V-2004, staff member of BV 60 (cover names: Werner REIBER and Walter RUESLER).
  - f. V-7601, leader of UV 7600.
3. The principal points discussed at the meeting were the following:
  - a. Further details on the flap which resulted in the arrest of V-7667 and which also involved V-7666 and V-7661 (see para. 2 of reference).
  - b. Further information about the major (see para. 4 of reference).
  - c. Further information about WALTER, including his relationships with other Soviet officers.

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- d. Further information about BREDOW.
- e. Extent of knowledge of WALTER and BREDOW.
- f. Meetings and working methods of WALTER and BREDOW.
- g. OV 7600 leadership of and communication channel with BREDOW.
- h. Difficulties inherent in the operation.
4. The following additional information about the arrest of V-7667 was obtained:
  - a. The true name has not yet been obtained, but OV H has promised to furnish it shortly.
  - b. V-7667 had two assignments: to maintain observation of the Cottbus airfield and to do spade-work in Frankfurt/Oder. It is not known which assignment resulted in his arrest. It had been determined, however, that V-7667, who is married, had a mistress living in the East Sector of Berlin and that he had told this girl that he was single. The girl telephoned the mother of V-7667 after the arrest of the latter, and the vindictively triumphant vein in which she spoke led to the natural suspicion that she had caused the arrest of V-7667 in retaliation after learning that he was married.
  - c. V-7666 has no present tie with OV H. His true name and present address appear in para. 8 of MDL-A- 4324.
  - d. As has been previously reported, V-7601 reactivated V-7661 for JUPITER purposes, and V-7661 recruited BREDOW. Because V-7661 had been involved in the V-7667 flap, however, he was withdrawn from further contact with BREDOW. His residence in Western Germany has been legalized by a U. S. office, and his wife is in U. S. employ.
5. WALTER has given BREDOW the following characterization of the major: His character lacks balance; on occasion he reacts violently to minor stimuli, yet remains calm in more trying circumstances. He is irascible. His appearance is usually slovenly. He drinks heavily, both at the airfield canteen and in his home. According to his own admission as well as the assertions of fellow officers he has frequently violated the rules of conduct for a Soviet officer. He is a notorious woman chaser. In addition, he sometimes talks, when drunk, like a 150% communist but sometimes criticizes Stalin openly. His fellow officers state that he has been retained by the unit as a test pilot only because he is hard-working and competent. Although he customarily wears a leather flying jacket devoid of insignia, both he and other pilots have said that he tests the fastest models of Soviet jets.

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6. BREDOW has informed V-7601 that the father of WALTER was an employee of a German firm in the USSR. The father returned to Germany in 1936, bringing his family with him. WALTER later served as an Oberfeldwebel with the regiment identified in PULLP-1756, in which regiment BREDOW served as an officer or officer candidate. BREDOW judges WALTER as follows:

Although pro-German, he has attributes of character which are typically Russian. The German side of his nature was strengthened by his military service in the German army, but earlier and deeper impressions lead him to sympathize with the Russian people today (although not with the Soviet government). BREDOW terms him a split personality. His motivation seems to be primarily mercenary; in no sense, at least, can he be termed idealistic. On the other hand, he does not work solely for the money; the DM 250 per month which he is now paid is not a large item to a black-marketeer as successful as WALTER. The second cause for collaboration, then, seems to be his old friendship with BREDOW. Finally, BREDOW has made himself useful to WALTER's ends. Before WALTER comes to West Berlin on one of his illegal purchasing trips on behalf of various Russian officers (and his own purse), he first sends notification to a sister living in the East Sector of Berlin. She passes the word on to BREDOW, who makes rather large-scale purchases for WALTER and turns the items over to him at cost when the latter appears. Finally, as appears in fuller detail below, WALTER and BREDOW have become drinking companions. Thus the two motives of friendship and profit seem intertwined. Previous reports that WALTER is a clerk-translator are now termed incorrect by OV H; he is, instead, the manager of the canteen at the airfield in question. To date OV H has ascertained, from the number of Soviet officers with whom WALTER is presumed to have some measure of acquaintanceship, only the two true names thus far reported. An effort will be made to complete this list.

7. V-7601 provided the following analysis of BREDOW:

a. BREDOW comes from a good family, with ties to other well-to-do or well-known families in Berlin; and one of his major concerns is strengthening and exploiting these ties. He is heart and soul a businessman. He is intelligent, mentally alert, clear in his thinking, reticent, and somewhat nervous. He gives WALTER a helping hand in the black-marketeering enterprises of the latter out of friendship and to maintain the IS tie but does not, according to V-7601, personally profit from the deals. He conducts his IS work in a business-like-fashion and solely for mercenary motives, although he has no intention of earning a living in this fashion. (His present pay from UV 7600 is only 100 DM monthly.) Unlike WALTER, he does not drink regularly; but when he does go on a spree, he tipsles so thoroughly that he is incapable of working for one to two days thereafter.

b. The family printing firm is in such poor financial shape that it is about to be liquidated. BREDOW has received no pay from this firm for the past three months. As a consequence he is now seeking employment in Bielefeld (British Zone of Germany); he has, in fact, been offered a monthly salary of DM 1,200 by a textile firm there. This information was obtained

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by V-7601 from a daughter of the HENKEL family (manufacturers of Persill) in Berlin; the daughter is a friend of V-7601. The latter must accept or reject this offer by the beginning of May 1951.

8. Shortly after the end of World War II BREDOW was interrogated about his Abwehr II activities by the British in District Cage, War Crimes Commission, Kensington Garden, London. In 1948 he was re-arrested and reinterrogated, in London, on the same subject. During either the first or the second interrogation, according to BREDOW, he was so mistreated physically that several teeth were knocked out of his mouth. He does not like Englishmen.

9. Neither BREDOW nor WALTER has, to date, been told anything about the CARTILAGE mission. WALTER, in fact, has never been given any specific KSI's; he merely reports whatever he learns while working as a canteen manager. (Similarly, V-7661 and V-7605 know nothing about the CARTILAGE mission.) BREDOW knows V-7601, V-7605, and V-7661, as well as WALTER and WALTER's sister. He knows V-7661 by true name and also knows his present address. WALTER knows only BREDOW.

10. Whenever WALTER is going to West Berlin to make purchases on behalf of Soviet officers, he notifies in advance a sister who lives in the east sector of the city. It is not yet known whether he also sends her a list of articles to be purchased at this time, or whether he has provided BREDOW with such a list on his last trip. At any rate, the sister notifies BREDOW, who makes WALTER's purchases for him and who also arranges for two rooms in a pension in West Berlin. (This system was being used before either BREDOW or WALTER was engaged in intelligence work.) The pension is changed regularly, and BREDOW always uses a cover name for the purpose. WALTER sometimes uses a cover name but just as frequently uses his true name. They enter and leave the pension separately. Meetings occur irregularly, based on the black-marketeering activities of WALTER; the average time interval is a fortnight. Because WALTER is unable to retain in his head such items as field post numbers, he is forced to take notes. (At first he did not do so, and as a result his initial reports were vague.) WALTER and BREDOW have worked out a code which is presumably based on the list of purchases; such a list, consisting of items to be bought by BREDOW before WALTER's next visit, will include one coded entry containing intelligence. When the two men are alone together, WALTER verbally supplements the coded information; BREDOW prepares a written report on the spot. The two men work very rapidly, usually concluding the business in half an hour. The reason for this speed is that to them the intelligence business is incidental; they are primarily concerned with getting through the work as rapidly as possible so that they can go out on the town. When the work has been finished, BREDOW pays WALTER immediately; the two then go to the Kurfuerstendamm and drink heavily until four or five in the morning. During this process WALTER usually pays out about half of what he has just received from BREDOW. It should be added that BREDOW was trained in February in the water type (iron chloride developer) of S/W; and both he and WALTER have used this method. (Field Comments: It is not yet clear why

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WALTER has any need for S/N; V-7601 has been asked to clarify.) More recently BREEDOW has been trained in the use of an alum ink, and it is expected that he will teach its use to WALTER.

10. As was previously reported, BREEDOW (who subsequently recruited WALTER) was himself recruited by V-7661. Because of the flag in which the latter had been involved, V-7605 replaced V-7661 and met BREEDOW twice in Berlin. After the second meeting, however, V-7605 decided that he was unable to direct BREEDOW because the latter was more intelligent than he and came from a higher social class. Therefore V-7601 procured a letter of recommendation from V-7661 and, in February, took over the direction of BREEDOW. He too has met BREEDOW twice to date, always in West Berlin. BREEDOW himself insists on personal meetings and rejects the use of letter-drops or other intermediate persons. He is given only verbal directions. He sends written reports, however, to an existing person in Freiberg; this person, a woman, then mails the reports to a cover address, of V-7661 in Heidelberg. V-7661 sends the reports to a post-office box in Frankfurt.

11. During the course of the discussion both V-7601 and V-2002 tended to dwell solely upon the difficulties inherent in the undertaking.

a. The first complaint from BV 80 concerned lack of funds. They have no strategic exploratory funds because GV H is out of the strategic business; and they claimed that OB (i.e., JUPITER) exploratory funds were practically non-existent. Because [ ] had been previously warned by [ ] about BV 80's attitude toward money, he refused to take the complaint too seriously and merely advised the BV 80 people that the WALTER-BREEDOW operation would not be allowed to wither on the vine for lack of cash. KUEHNKE subsequently talked to BV 80 on this point, and [ ] has been assured by MAURER that BV 80 has enough money for its CARTILAGE needs.

b. The GV H and BV 80 representatives were again told what payments would be made to the major and WALTER if the CARTILAGE assignment is carried out. They were also given a general idea of what treatment and payment could be given if the major (and, of course, WALTER) come out without the plane. It was again stressed, however, that treatment and payment of both would, under such circumstances, depend upon what the major knows and that we are not presently in any position to evaluate this knowledge. BV 80 then wanted to know what would happen if the attempt ended in failure, at the same time pointing out that they would then lose a currently valuable source. V-7601, in particular, dwelled upon the fact that the contact between himself and BREEDOW is without intervening links. As a consequence, V-7601 feared that if they had hooked into a Soviet-directed double play (GV H had previously been briefed on the second GV O CARTILAGE disaster) or if the major proved a loyal Soviet after all, he himself would be exposed and might well find himself jobless because his usefulness was at an end. [ ] replied that this possibility was a normal occupational hazard. V-2002 wanted to know what disposal payments could be made to those involved (WALTER, BREEDOW, V-7601) if the project ended in disaster, and Bunde suggested the normal three months'

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pay. The atmosphere was a bit sticky by this time; all persons present, except MAURIN, seemed so exclusively concerned with the dangers and difficulties of the project as to be unable to think positively about means of accomplishing the joint purpose. [ ] initial attempts at encouragement met with no response. Therefore, after the tale of anticipated woes had flowed at some length, [ ] solicitously remarked that perhaps the entire operation was, after all, too difficult for GVN and that it might be a good idea, if they really felt unable to carry out the task, to turn BREDOW over to direct American control. This dash of cold water had a highly salutary effect.

c. [ ] next asked whether V-7601 could give full time to this undertaking. The reply, from V-2001, was emphatically negative. We next asked whether a deputy UV leader could not be appointed for UV 7600, thus relieving V-7601 of many of his more routine duties; but V-2001 said that no suitable person was presently available. Because this matter infringed on the ticklish problem of leadership and control, [ ] was unable to insist; it was possible only to remind those present of the extreme importance and top priority of the mission.

d. The account which V-7601 had given of the relationship between BREDOW and himself had clearly indicated that it was cold, businesslike, and not free from mutual suspicion. [ ] stated that V-7601 was quite right in remaining suspicious about BREDOW but was perhaps unwise in letting BREDOW feel this suspicion. In order to build a closer working relationship, it was suggested that V-7601 emulate the WALTER-BREDOW pattern by doing a bit of carousing with BREDOW and thus creating a closer emotional relationship. V-7601, who seems intelligent and decent (in fact, rather proper), received this suggestion with reserve.

e. [ ] next asked what was known about WALTER's sister, only to learn that this lead had been left unexplored. It was then pointed out that information about the sister is vital and that V-7601 should be thinking of ways to maintain contact with her if BREDOW should accept the job in the British Zone. V-2002 thereupon wanted to know whether we were willing to pay BREDOW an extra DM 1,000 monthly in order to hold him in Berlin. Bunce replied that if BV 80 could get to the point of negotiating for a plane in a month's time, so that this would be a one-time payment, we should be willing to meet this request, but that if such payments were to extend over a long period during which our prospects did not improve significantly, then no such payments could be made.

f. V-7025 pointed out that the major would probably not believe that WALTER was in any position to make the CARTILAGE offer. Our reply was that it might be possible to allow the major to select an American tune and set the date when that tune should be played by the American radio in Berlin. V-2002 wanted to know how long would be needed to complete arrangements for this maneuver and was told that it might be done in three days if necessary. (Field Comment: whether this plan is feasible cannot, of course, be decided here. We should be appreciative if BCB would tell us whether they would be able to work out such an arrangement.)

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12. On 23 April 1951 V-7601 left for his third meeting with BRELOW in West Berlin. It was decided at the meeting of 18 April that the following steps would be taken:

a. V-7601 would try to create a closer personal bond between himself and BRELOW, through alcohol or by whatever other means seemed to him suited to the purpose.

b. V-7601 would obtain from BRELOW all available information about WALTER's sister.

c. BRELOW would be asked to state his intentions in respect to the offer of employment in Melefeld. V-7601 was empowered to offer BRELOW a sum of 1,000 DM monthly for not more than two months if V-7601 also felt that he could safely pass the CARTILAGE mission on to BRELOW and get the ball rolling fast enough so that we had the plane or a reliable offer within that time.

d. V-7601 is also to determine, if possible, whether BRELOW can provide a substitute in case he will not remain in Berlin.

e. We have just been informed that V-7601 returned from Berlin on or about 28 April. WAGNER will meet him on 3 May and furnish us with a subsequent report on the last meeting of V-7601 and BRELOW.

13. The following list includes all reports plus evaluations thereof which have been provided by WALTER to date:

NEL-10329	F-3
NEL-12079	F-3
NEL-12075	F-2 and F-3
NEL-12460	F-2 and F-3

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