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Station: SCI 6th Army Group

Report No:

Reference:

Report Date: 17 May 1945

SOURCE: FRIEDMANN, Karl Hermann

Information Date: 13 May 1945

Sub-Source:

Date Info Rec;

Evaluation: B-2

Subject: Sale of Foreign Currency by the RSHA

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Attached hereto is a report on the Sale of Foreign Currency by the RSHA.

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APO 23, U.S. Army

17 May 1945

by

SUBJECT: Sale of Foreign Currency/the RSHA.

1. According to Friedmann, Karl Hermann, 10 Mauerkircherstr. Munich, formerly SD Munich and now exploited by SCI for penetration purposes, Himmler in 1943 ordered the manufacture of false pounds, francs and dollars, with the intention of selling this faked currency in occupied Europe against gold, jewels and other valuables.
2. A first-class forfeiter was released from prison for this purpose. After he had completed the plates for the mass production of such currency, he was executed.
3. Himmler appointed SS Sturmbannfuhrer Dr. Wendig as head of this operation. Wendig died in 1944 and was replaced in 1944 by SS Sturm-fuehrer Schwend who still goes by the name of Wendig.
4. Valuables purchased by the sale of this faked currency were in reality used to finance RSHA operations.
5. At the approach of the allied armies in Germany, Schwend evacuated to MERAN (North Italy) with important stocks of faked currency and valuables purchased therewith.
6. Other people involved in these operations under Wendig were, to Friedmann's knowledge:
  - a) SS Obersturmfuehrer Dauser of AMT VI of RSHA.
  - b) Graf Wenzel
  - c) George Spitz
7. Friedmann accordingly led Lt. Moore of SCI to the house of George Spitz, near Rosenheim.
8. Spitz was taken into SCI custody on 13 May for interrogation. Spitz admitted having transacted pounds for Wendig, but denied any knowledge that this currency was faked. He claims besides to have been black-mailed by Wendig who knew he was Jewish.
9. Spitz appears to be sincere in that he is a Jew who was exploited by the RSHA against threats on his life and the safety of his family.
10. Spitz assisted Lt. Moore in the apprehension of Professor Heinrich HOFFMANN, intimate friend of Adolf Hitler, and the richest man in Germany next to Goering. Hoffman is now in jail at Munich. Also arrested in this operation was Mr. Loomis Taylor, a U.S. citizen who was the American Lord Haw Haw during the war, an ardent Nazi and personal friend of Heinrich Himmler.
11. Spitz is anxious to assist in the arrest of Dauser and Dr. Wendig, now believed to be hiding in MIRAN. It is recommended that Mr. Spitz be used in this operation, which would furnish complete data on the faked currency operations of the RSHA.