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HQS USFET MISC APO 757

OI-PIR/35

14 Dec 45

OI - Preliminary Interrogation Report (OI-PIR) No. 35.

SUBJECT: STREMPPEL, von, Heribert, Hugo, Georg, Raphael Secretary in Foreign Office.

1. PERSONAL DATA. STREMPPEL was born 8 March 1902 in BERLIN. He graduated from high school in 1919 and studied law at the University of Jena from 1919 to 1922. In 1923 source entered the diplomatic service as technical assistant in the Foreign Office under Dr. V. BUELOW, head of its League of Nations Dept. In 1926 he passed his diplomatic examinations and became attaché in PARIS with a German delegation which was to negotiate a trade agreement with France. During 1927 he worked as 2nd secretary in the German embassy at BELGRADE and from 1928 to 1934 as charge d'affaires in Chile. The foreign party organization of the NSDAP then demanded his recall because he was not a party member. At that time there was an opening in the embassy at WASHINGTON for a second secretary and he was assigned to this position by the Foreign Office. The Nazi Party did not approve of this assignment either. He was therefore attached to the press Dept of the Foreign Office in BERLIN as specialist for South American and Anglo-Saxon affairs until 1937. In 1938 the German ambassador in WASHINGTON requested a career diplomat with knowledge of Spanish and English, and since he was the only eligible candidate for this position, he was sent to America. The party again requested his recall, which did not take place because of the outbreak of the war. STREMPPEL remained in WASHINGTON until 1942, when he was exchanged. He returned to the press dept and was placed in charge of the North American press section.

He states that he was promoted only once under the Nazi regime, from second to first secretary, which promotion had already been proposed in 1932. He never entered the Nazi party, or any formation thereof.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA. Subject arrived at this Center from BAD OLDESLOK (British Zone) on 17 Nov 45. Result Central Personality Index check: negative.

3. KNOWLEDGE BRIEF. Activities of the NSDAP in South America, up to 1934, and info on George Sylvester VIERECK case.

4. INTERROGATION PLAN. Interrogation will follow knowledge brief.

5. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. STREMPPEL gives the impression of being an anti-Nazi. He is very intelligent and cooperative. Source was under house arrest by the British in the early part of the occupation and then cleared. He states that the British authorities plan to use him on an English-German newspaper.

The recipients of this report are requested to submit special briefs of any subjects upon which subject should be interrogated and to indicate the desirable distribution of the resultant report.

For the Commanding Officer:

FRANCIS C. ST JOHN
2nd Lt., Infantry
Editor in Chief

FOR COORDINATION WITH US Army

14 Dec 45

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