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HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES FORCES AUSTRIA
SSU, AND MISSION TO AUSTRIA
APO 777

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: Vienna, Austria Field Hq. File LVA 207
SCI/A

REPORT MADE AT:	DATE:	PERIOD COVERED:	MADE BY:
Vienna	12.4.46	12.4.46	DD 110

SUBJECT: Detailed Interrogation Report of Erich WENDLER @ Carol POPESCU, @ Sheliach ERI. Former GIS and JOINT agent.

STATUS: Pending

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3826
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

INTERROGATION BY: DD 110

REFERENCE: LSX 32, LSX 39, LSX 41, LSX 182

- COMMENT:
1. WENDLER is presently implicated in the black market activities of the KLEMM gang and may be sentenced along with them for a period of 1 - 5 years.
 2. Inasmuch as he is a fervent Zionist, and has a very extensive knowledge of the JOINT and BRICHAD organizations he may later be "sprung" and used in project SYMPHONY.
 3. Note: Remove cover sheet if passing to Allied Intelligence Agencies. WENDLER is not considered "controlled".

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A. PERSONAL DATA

1. Subject was born in Cernowitz on 16 October 1907. He is a machine construction engineer and has studied at the Technican High School in Bordeaux and the Technical High School in Milweyda, Saxony.

2. Aliases:

a. In the GIS: Carol POPESCU
b. In the JOINT Service: Sheliach ERI (the courier ERI).

3. He worked for the firm of WACHALOWSKI in Vienna XX until 1926 and later in 1926 he emigrated to Rumania where he worked for the saw mills of the firm of CARPATINA until 1928.

4. In 1928 he emigrated to South America and worked as a machine construction engineer for the AEG in Montevideo.

5. In 1930 he returned to Vienna and founded the firm of Michael STEIN and Co., located at Vorgartenstrasse, Vienna XX, which manufactured powder-boxes a la Viennese.

B. FIRST CONTACT WITH THE GIS.

6. In 1939 he was arrested by the Gestapo in a Jew-arresting razzia and brought to Gestapo headquarters. There he was interrogated and the Gestapo was very interested in his linguistic abilities. (He speaks Hungarian, French, Spanish, Rumanian, German and Yiddish .) They were also interested in his travels abroad. After a stay of one week he was interrogated again by a man who presented himself as one BOGNER, and who said that if he wanted to "work" for the "Army" he would be given his freedom. The other alternative was that he would be left to the fate which awaited the other Jews. He acceded and was immediately liberated. BOGNER took him to a cafe and there explained that he was to be sent as a W/T agent to Hungary to collect military information.

7. Later he was presented to his actual chief, one Major BAGEL, chief of I Wi, Ast Vienna. He was told that to complete his mission successfully he was first to be trained. He was actually sent to a school established in a small house in klosterneuburg-Weydling, where he was taught W/T transmission together with five or six other students. He remained there four weeks.

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8. After the completion of his course, he was again seen by BAGEL, who told him that he was to reside in Budapest. He also instructed him that to establish a sufficient cover, he was to be officially a traveller for the transport firm of NEMETH and Co., Boersenplatz, Budapest.

C. MISSION IN ISTANBUL AND SYRIA.

9. During the next interview with BAGEL, he was told that he was to travel with a Hungarian passport under the name of Carol POPESCU (he was given a Roumanian name because he speaks Rumanian better than he speaks Hungarian.) At that time BAGEL wanted him to go to Syria and collect military information there.

10. Subject duly left for Budapest and established his cover with the firm of NEMETH. Once this was finished he looked for some way to avoid taking the trip to Syria. It should be known that Subject is a fervent Zionist and has a step-brother, Dr. Theodore WEISELBERGER who is the leader of the Zionist movement in the Bucovina. As soon as Subject could, he contacted Samuel SPRINGMAN, a jeweller by profession who was the leader of the Zionist movement in Budapest, asking him for advice.

11. SPRINGMAN told him to proceed to Istanbul and to contact there Mr. GOLDIN, who was the local representative of the JOINT, and to tell him the entire story.

12. Subject arrived in Istanbul in February 1941 and immediately contacted GOLDIN in his suite in the Hotel Continental. GOLDIN then called up someone, and soon an Englishman arrived, who later proved to be the aide to the Military Attaché of the British Embassy, Major O'LEARY (?). The "middleman" told him that they would protect Subject, that he should proceed to Syria, ostensibly make a trip around the country and come back to Istanbul. In the meantime some false information would be prepared for Subject to take back to Hungary.

13. In February 1941 Subject went to Syria, stayed there for two weeks, in Beyrouth, and Aleppo, returned to Istanbul and telephoned GOLDIN, who must have notified the Britisher because he arrived in Subject's hotel a few hours later. O'LEARY gave him the prepared intelligence for the GIS, which filled the intelligence requirements of BAGEL. At the same time, the Britisher asked him to collect some political and economic intelligence and handed him a list of eighteen or nineteen requirements.

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14. GOLDIN also gave Subject some letters and immigration certificates for SPRINGMAN for a number of Hungarian Jewish children who were to be transported to Palestine.

15. Subject returned to Budapest in March 1941, telegraphed his chief BAGEL at his cover address of the VOSS Werke, Gunthergasse 3, Vienna IX. Two days later BAGEL met Subject in Budapest and declared himself very satisfied with the information. Two weeks later BAGEL was again in Budapest and told Subject that he was to return to Syria and this time stay longer and establish W/T communication. The W/T set was to be given him by the Italian Vice Consul SHUKRI, an Arab, in Beyrouth.

D. MISSIONS FOR THE JOINT, DA ROLE FOR THE BRITISH

16. SPRINGMAN was duly informed of the entire business and helped him with his visa. Until then Subject collected information for the Britisher and waited for the letters which SPRINGMAN was preparing for GOLDIN.

17. In June 1941 Subject arrived in Istanbul and called GOLDIN. This time GOLDIN sent a certain POWERANETZ (alias WENIA), a Palestinian, who was sent by the Palestine Jewish Agency as a "liaison man" to GOLDIN. WENIA was given the lists of children which SPRINGMAN wanted to emigrate from Hungary and was told of Subject's plight. WENIA promised to call back the next day and brought with him the Britisher who offered Subject all material help possible. In case he needed protection the Britisher was ready to have him emigrate to Kenya or South America. Subject refused and wanted to continue doing this work, but he was extremely reluctant to continue work for the German Intelligence Service.

18. At this time the British were occupying Syria and it became impossible for Subject to go there and contact the Italian Vice Consul in Beyrouth. During the eight days in which he stayed in Istanbul he carefully continued his cover activities as a travelling representative of the NEMETH firm and actually concluded a number of business deals with a certain BAXMANN of the transport firm of KUEHNE and NAGEL. In the meantime he waited until the immigration certificates for the Hungarian children were ready. When they were handed to him he left for Budapest.

19. Upon his return he contacted BAGEL whom he told of his impossibility to penetrate into Syria owing to the increased surveillance of the British troops there. BAGEL advised him to

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stay in Budapest until Subject heard from him. After three weeks Subject was informed by BAGEL's Budapest representative, one Dr. GROVIC, to meet B-AGEL in the Hotel Carlton. The latter then informed him that he was to establish an intelligence net covering Syria, Cyprus, Palestine and Iraq and establish his residence in Istanbul with a sufficient cover. BAGEL told him that he would certainly find a number of Arabian Nationalists who would be excellent agents. On one occasion BAGEL presented him to an Arabian Nationalist named SUPITH ZABEN (?), Alias ALI, who gave him a letter of recommendation to a Syrian prince called ARZLAN in Istanbul. BAGEL later gave Subject 1500 dollars and told him to proceed to Istanbul to establish his net-work.

20. Subject returned to Istanbul in October 1941 and apart from the intelligence which he had collected for the Britisher he took with him a number of reports prepared for GOLDIN from SPRINGMAN and Dr. KRAUSS, the president of the Jewish Community in Budapest.

21. Subject duly delivered the Jewish information to WENIA and the collected intelligence to the Britisher. O'LEARY instructed Subject as to the story Subject was to give to his German chief, promised to him to give all the DA-material possible and even instructed Subject as to the names of some of his new alleged Arabian Nationalist couriers (ACHMED KALI and MUSTAFA) which he was to mention to his German chief.

22. The JOINT, in the person of WENIA, asked him whether it would be possible to establish a courier net of intelligence value for them emanating from Budapest. The plan would work something as follows: The JOINT wanted to give Subject a certain number of letters asking their correspondent in Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Germany to write them reports about the situation of the Jews in their respective countries. Subject was to try to find couriers who for money would transport these letters to their destinations. These destinations were (for Vienna) Dr. Leopold LOWENHERZ, leader of the Jewish Community in Vienna, (for Prague) a certain Heinz SCHUSTER, a member of the Jewish community in Prague who was in direct contact with the inmates of the concentration camp of Theresienstadt. The JOINT would give Subject a huge amount of money which was to be distributed to the different recipients and to the couriers who would transport the JOINT demands to the final destinations. Other places where letters were addressed to were Pressburg, a number of cities in Poland and in the Ukraine.

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23. As soon as Subject returned to Budapest and had delivered the English DA-material to his chief, who declared himself extremely satisfied with it, he began establishing a plan to have the letters of enquiry from the JOINT delivered to their destinations, and have the proper answers find their way back to him in Budapest. One of the conditions of Subject's work for the Germans was that he would not re-enter Austria while he was working for them. He was thus obliged to find couriers among former friends or casual acquaintances, from the Abwehr who could enter Austria.

24. Subject knew a certain SCHWARTZ, alias SCHOLTZ, from his days in Vienna. He knew him as a "no-good" who was looking for easy money and was willing to work for anyone as long as they paid. SCHWARTZ and his partner WIENINGER were both working for the GIS in Budapest; simply because it kept them out of the Army, and it allowed them to travel everywhere under the cover of intelligence missions. SCHWARTZ and WIENINGER actually were smuggling gold to Budapest and jewels to Vienna, and were making a lot of money on the side. Subject simply approached SCHWARTZ with the following business proposition: to deliver the JOINT letter to SCHUSTER in Prague and 50,000 RM, and to bring back the answer. For this SCHWARTZ was to receive 20,000 RM. SCHWARTZ agreed and soon brought back the answer for the JOINT. Another trip of SCHWARTZ was even more sensational: he was able to smuggle the JOINT enquiry letter into the concentration camp of Bensburg, and received in return a four-page letter signed by twelve prominent Jews about the situation in the camp, citing names and facts. SCHWARTZ also managed to smuggle a number of letters of JOINT enquiries to their destinations in Poland and brought back the demanded information.

25. Soon WIENINGER was pressed into the deal for letters of enquiry addressed to Pressburg, for which he also was richly rewarded. He also brought back the information of the situation of the Jews in Czechoslovakia. Both SCHWARTZ and WIENINGER were told that apart from the money they received from the Subject for their courier service, they were promised full protection from the Allies, thru the JOINT, when the war was ended, although it was known that they were agents for the GIS. WIENINGER was the one who transported the JOINT letter to Dr. LOWENHERZ to Vienna.

26. In the beginning of January 1943, Subject left for Istanbul with all the JOINT letters delivered and all the information gathered for the JOINT. He also had with him the economic and political intelligence which the Britisher had asked, and was satisfied with the fact that his German employer, Major BAGEL,

was extremely pleased with his imaginary net-work of Arab nationalists working in the Near East. The letters from the concentration camp of Bensburg were hailed as quite an achievement and found immediately their way to Jerusalem, where they were given wide publicity. It helped enormously to aid in the collection of moneys which the JOINT was making for its emigration action.

27. This first attempt of getting information out of the German-occupied countries was so good that WENIA, the Jewish Agency man, surrounded himself with a "working committee" consisting of the following Jewish Agency representatives: WENIA, BADER, SCHINDT, UEBERALL, SCHAECHTER. Some of them remained in Istanbul, others served as couriers to the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem. The "working committee" was so enthusiastic about the work of SCHWARTZ that they asked Subject to bring him over to Istanbul to have personal contact with him. But it was only after a number of similar trips as the one described above that Subject finally took SCHWARTZ to Istanbul to present him to the "working committee" and to the Britisher O'LEARY.

28. The money which Subject received from the JOINT to transmit to the recipients in German occupied countries and to pay his own couriers to them was given to him in the form of gold coins (napoleons d'or). Every time he arrived in Budapest he was obliged to change them on the Black Market for pengoe or other national currency needed. SPRINGMAN who was a jeweler by profession, had recommended to Subject a Black Market dealer in gold and jewels named GROSS, with whom he was a life-long friend. (winter 1942). SPRINGMAN knew that GROSS was not very clean in his methods, and that GROSS, to safeguard his position with the Hungarians and the Germans, was working for their respective intelligence services. But he considered that the means justifies the end and first recommended GROSS to Subject in a similar way in which Subject was using SCHWARTZ and WIEN-INGER; namely as a courier to deliver letters to new recipients and bring back the information which the JOINT (and the Jewish Agency) wanted from the German-occupied countries.

29. There was one channel of enquiry which had not yet been opened; namely towards Uszarod in Carpatho-Ukraine. GROSS declared himself willing to deliver the letters of enquiry and to collect the information demanded by the JOINT. Later, Subject exchanged bigger and bigger amounts of gold coins through GROSS who began asking a number of embarrassing questions as to the origin of the coins. Finally SPRINGMAN proposed that he initiate GROSS into the entire operation. This was done around the beginning of 1943. GROSS continued his own

intelligence activities and delivered letters to the Ukraine whenever Subject brought them from Istanbul. One day GROSS told Subject that he wanted to go to Istanbul on some business and since he had never been there he wanted Subject to allow him to join him on one of his trips. He (GROSS) would see to it that all of his own papers were in order and would not bother Subject in any way. To this Subject acceded and for the first time took GROSS to Istanbul in January 1943.

30. GROSS was presented by Subject to WENIA. GROSS promised to help the JOINT courier service by carrying letters and bringing back the answers wherever the JOINT wanted it. Subject asserts that he did not know what GROSS did, nor whom he contacted in Istanbul. He does not think that GROSS ever contacted Dr. GOLDIN, who actually was left entirely out of the business owing to his official position. Subject does not know whether GROSS contacted the Austrian Resistance people nor whether he had any dealings with them.

31. SCHWARTZ was presented by Subject during the summer of 1943 to WENIA and was congratulated for his work of bringing out letters from the concentration camp of Bensburg. He also promised to do everything possible to help the JOINT in its work, particularly after he was later presented to the Britisher by WENIA and received the assurance that should anything go wrong not only the JOINT but also the British Government, who was aware of the JOINT activities, would do everything possible to help him.

32. Subject was asked a number of ^{by whom?} questions about the Austrian Resistance movement in Istanbul; about MESSNER, RUEDIGER etc., and he asserts that he never was interested in it nor in its personalities; that his DA work for the British, his intelligence work in Hungary for them, and the work for the JOINT seemed to be filling his days enough without having to bother about other people's activities in Istanbul. While he was in Istanbul, of course, he was extremely careful to keep up his cover activities, and spent his entire day working with BAXMANN on transport business for his Hungarian civilian chiefs, the transport firm of NEMETH, and did only contact WENIA or the British at night after the most extensive security measures. One day UEBERALL presented him to an American in civilian clothes, at his apartment, whose name he understood to be BIRGDE (?). This was simply done by WENIA to show Subject that also the Americans were aware of the activities of Subject and of the "work Committee" of Palestinians and the American gave Subject the assurance that in any case he could also count on whatever help he wanted from the Americans, should something go wrong (early 1943)

33. Subject met Commander EARLE quite accidentally in a rug-dealer's shop where they were together offered coffee by the owner David BEY (early 1943). They began talking together and when EARLE heard that Subject was a "Hungarian" he said that he knew Budapest very well. They never broached the subject of Subject's intelligence activities and Subject doubts whether EARLE ever knew with whom he talked. Anyway, some time later EARLE invited Subject to his apartment and asked Subject to transport a letter and a gold \$20 coin to a girl friend of his in Budapest (name forgotten). This was done. Subject knew a man called Freiherr von DACHS, who also worked in the transport firm of NEMETH in Budapest and whom Subject knew to be a leading member of the Hungarian Royalist movement together with Prince PALAVICIN-J. In the summer of 1943, DACHS asked Subject to take a letter from him, addressed to Otto von HABSBURG in New York to Istanbul and to see that it was forwarded. This Subject did. He gave the letter to EARLE, who assured him that he would send it on to the Austrian Pretender, who then lived as "Duc du Bar" in the Hotel Essex, in New York City.

34. All in all Subject made twelve trips from Istanbul to Budapest and return. He thus brought to BAGEL the DA material which the English gave him. returned with political and economic intelligence collected in Hungary for the British and at the same time used SCHWARTZ, WIENINGER and GROSS to deliver letters everywhere in German-occupied countries and have them collect the answers, which he then transmitted to the "working committee" in Istanbul in the person of WENIA. It was so arranged that whenever Subject came to Budapest with letters from the JOINT, GROSS, SCHWARTZ or WIENINGER would be in Budapest to take them to wherever it was necessary.

35. In the summer of 1943, Subject began having some fear that the DA material given him by the British might prove to be highly embarrassing. The English gave him a report about ship concentrations in Gibraltar and in Malta, and indicated that these concentrations were intended for an invasion in France. At the same time the invasion of North Africa happened and Subject thought that BAGEL might think that the British planted this information just to make the German Army cause an alarm in France and divert their attention from the real invasion. BAGEL actually took the information and did not comment upon it.

36. Subject explains here how he was able to deliver the bigger and bigger packages of letters and gold which the JOINT gave him. Subject had told BAGEL that although the Turkish customs people could easily be suborned by "baksheesh",

the German-Bulgarian people at Zwillingsgrad were more attentive and that there was a danger that the Gestapo might interfere with his passage through the frontier. This is how this control was averted: two days before Subject left Istanbul he telegraphed BAGEL's Sofia's representative, one Stefan MENCZIK, at Graf Ignatieff no.2, Sofia, the time he would arrive in Sofia. MENCZIK advised BAGEL telephonically and arranged for air transport for Subject. BAGEL then advised the customs people of Zwillingsgrad and at the Budapest airport of the exact time of passage of Subject and he was never held up nor was his baggage examined.

37. Subject returned from Istanbul for the last time in October 1943. From BAGEL's attitude, he suspected that he smelled a rat. BAGEL, instead of being enthusiastic about Subject's "reports", told him simply that it would be advisable to stay for a while in Budapest and not to leave until he said so. Subject immediately conveyed his impressions to SPRINGMAN and WIENINGER. As WIENINGER wanted to get to Istanbul anyway, Subject decided to join him and never return. He actually left with WIENINGER on 10 November 1943 but was taken from the train by the Gestapo a few minutes before its departure from Zwillingsgrad. WIENINGER was not bothered and took the rest of Subject's luggage and the JOINT letters to Istanbul. After three days in Sofia, Subject was transferred to the German military prison in Budapest and there interrogated by a Kriminal Kommissar FABERTRICHT in the presence of his German chief BAGEL. The latter accused him of communicating with the enemy, but during the entire interview and the subsequent ones gave the impression that he did not want Subject to be fully accused and condemned, and later recommended that Subject be interned by the Hungarians. This was done.

38. Subject was interned until 10 January 1944 in the internment camp of Kistasa. He received visits from WIENINGER, SCHWARTZ, and even GROSS, as well as from his fiancée. Through paying enormous sums to the doctors, Subject, after faking a suicide attempt, was then declared insane by a board of (paid) doctors, and interned in the lunatic asylum of Lipotmezo. There he was at liberty to receive any visits he wanted. Through his fiancée he heard that SPRINGMAN had left around December 1943 for Palestine and had been replaced in his functions by a Dr. KASTNER. Later he heard that in April-May 1944, SCHWARTZ, WIENINGER and GEFRORNER (their GIS chief) had been arrested.

39. Around the middle of May 1944, Subject was told by the chief doctor that two Gestapo employees had made enquiries at his office as to the possibility of interrogating Subject.

Thereupon Subject fled from the lunatic asylum. He hid for five weeks with a friend. While with this friend he heard that Dr. KASTNER was arranging a transport of Hungarian Jews to Palestine. He contacted Dr. KASTNER and asked him what it would cost to join the transport. KASTNER asked 200,000 pengoes, but when he was told that he was talking with "SHELIACH ERI" ("The courier ERI", the name Subject had in the JOINT), he was given help without payment. He received false papers from KASTNER under the name Joseph BUCHHOLZ, and arrived in the place where all the Jews leaving Budapest were gathered. This place was of course under guard by the Gestapo. As soon as Subject arrived, he was held by the Gestapo and when he answered that his name was BUCHHOLZ, he was told that he was in reality Erich WENDEK, and to come along peacefully. Subject strongly suspected KASTNER of having betrayed him. KASTNER was an old friend of GROSS's and is now residing in Switzerland, afraid to go back to Hungary.

40. After three days of imprisonment at the Gestapo prison, he was fully interrogated by the Gestapo about his activities as a courier for the JOINT. The Gestapo knew every detail and soon Subject saw that it was useless to deny anything and thus confessed fully. They knew nothing about his dealings with O'LEARY, or at least they never interrogated him about it. Subject suspects GROSS of being the cause of all this. When he first met KASTNER, the latter told him that SCHWARTZ, WIENINGER and GEFROERNER were arrested and that his "friends" GROSS and BRANDT had left Budapest for Istanbul where they planned to remain permanently.

41. This suspicion was later confirmed by the following facts: On 3 November 1944 Subject was told that he was to be transported to Vienna. He left, chained to SCHWARTZ, and behind him WIENINGER chained to GEFROERNER. They spent three days and three nights together in a cattle car and had ample time to talk things over. There the GIS agents told Subject that BRANDT had arranged a card-game in his apartment. GROSS also was present. The Gestapo arrived and took them all away. WIENINGER, SCHWARTZ and GEFROERNER were kept in prison, and GROSS and BRANDT were immediately released, which they thought proved conclusively that they had been betrayed by GROSS and BRANDT (end April 1944). The four men remained one day in a cell together in the Rossauerlaender Prison in the Elisabethpromenade and were then separated.

42. Subject was interrogated by the Gestapo a number of times to reconstruct the entire deal. Apparently all the papers had been destroyed in Budapest and the investigation had to start all over again.

43. Subject heard later that SCHWARTZ had been freed around New Year 1945 and has never heard from him since.

44. On 6 April 1945, most of the two thousand prisoners of the prison were freed (among them WIENINGER). Two hundred remained, and among them Subject, who was freed when the Russians entered Vienna and opened the doors of the prison, together with GEFRORNER.

E. ARREST BY THE RUSSIANS

45. As Subject's home had been damaged, he asked GEFRORNER whether he could live with him, which the latter permitted. On 13 April 1945, a Russian Major, accompanied by a Sergeant, whom Subject later knew to be called EISBERG, arrived in the apartment of GEFRORNER and asked for GEFRORNER. Subject said that he had left and volunteered the information that if they were interested in GEFRORNER's intelligence activities he could tell them a certain number of things, whereupon they arrested him and took him to a private house in the Ungargasse, Vienna III.

46. Subject stayed three days in the Ungargasse and was once interrogated by a Captain about his activities with the JOINT and with the GIS. He did not tell them anything about his DA role for the Allies. Once he accompanied a searching party who went to SEDLACHEK's apartment, but could not find him. Later the Russians, who Subject knew to be the NKVD unit for the Russian 62nd Division, heard that both GEFRORNER and SEDLACHEK had been arrested by another unit located in the Boesendorferstrasse.

47. On 16 or 17 April 1945, the NKVD unit moved to the Gentzgasse 15, Vienna XV, where he was locked up in a room. Later he acted as a sort of interpreter translating the needs of the Russians to the civilians in the house but not taking part in any interrogations. One day, Grete ROTTER arrived there and had a long interview with the Major. Subject did not assist in it. He knows nothing more about her.

48. As the war was still on and the Russians were moving forward, the 62nd Division unit moved up also, and around 21 April 1945 the unit moved to a farmhouse in the neighborhood of Boheimkirchen, about 45 Km. from Vienna, in the direction of St. Poelten.

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49. The composition of the unit was as follows:

a. The major, who was the commander, was a man about 45 years old, black hair, medium height, dark eyes. He told Subject once that he had been on the staff of the Russian Military Attache in Japan, in some "GPU" capacity. Subject once accompanied him back to Vienna to fetch the latest conquest of the Russian Major, an Austrian girl named SEYFFERT, who lived in Gonzagagasse 3, Vienna I, whom the Major promised to take back to Russia.

b. The Captain, about 26-27 years old, who was the interrogator of the unit.

c. A woman lieutenant, who did the typing and all secretarial work.

d. Sergeant EISBERT and another interpreter (Russian soldier).

e. About thirty soldiers, drivers, guards, etc. The unit had three private cars and two trucks.

50. The unit remained in Boheimkirchen about five days, during which time Subject did nothing but await events. Once he took SEYFFERT to Vienna with the Major.

51. Around 26-27 April 1945, Subject and the entire unit again went forward and this time installed themselves in a villa near St. Poelten, on the road toward Amstetten. They remained there for three days.

52. Then they finally established themselves in Mank, about 90 km. from Vienna and 30 km. from St. Poelten. Subject remained there two weeks during which time he again did nothing. The Major called him in one day and sent him to Vienna in a private car. He arrived with his guard at Theresianumgasse 26 and was locked up in a cellar. A lieutenant asked him for his personal data and locked him up again. After nineteen days he was interrogated by an Air Corps Captain, who was mainly interested in knowing whether Subject had been working against Russia. Subject told him the JOINT deal all over again. The Captain promised to check with his people in Istanbul and would let him free if nothing would be there against him. Subject was actually freed after a month's time in the prison, after having signed a declaration that he would tell nobody that he had been arrested by the Russians nor that he had been interrogated and on what subjects.

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53. Subject then lived for a while in the apartment of GEERORNER. He later went to the Jewish Community and when he heard that a Viennese, Dr. Emil TUCHMANN was establishing a branch office of the JOINT under the protection of the International Red Cross, he presented himself to TUCHMANN as the "Sheliach ERI" and was given the job of office-manager at the offices of the JOINT, Schottenring 25, Vienna IX. He managed the office help, supervised the distribution of foodstuffs and was the cashier. He remained there for two months and a half. Soon he saw that many foodstuffs were not being given the Jewish refugees but the hospital and to a number of Christians. This was against the rules of the JOINT, and after thinking it over, Subject decided to quit, which he did around the middle of August 1945.

54. Subject then worked with a certain STRASSBERGER, who had an information service for the tracing of Austrian Jews at Johannesgasse 3, Vienna I. Subject's fiancée, a Hungarian Jewess, came over with her mother from Budapest at the same time.

55. Subject accepted the proposition of a certain POLAK to finance the latter's garage with the dowry of his Hungarian fiancée and put 40,000 Schillings in the proposition. KLEMM, the Black Marketeer, had an automobile in the garage which was situated in the Franzengasse 18, Vienna V. One day the American CID arrived, looking for KLEMM, and searched Subject. On him they found a \$20 bill. He asserted that it was a sort of talisman from his brother in America, received in 1938, but was arrested and is now in the Landesgericht prison for complicity in the KLEMM case. As the CID men were in the garage, three men, one an Austrian, a Hungarian, and another, and one other, entered the garage and said they were looking for POLAK. They were also arrested. On the Hungarian \$200 were found.

F. LAUFFER AND SEDLACHEK

56. Subject was asked whether he knew of other letters of the JOINT being carried by other people. He remembers that (possibly) SCHWARTZ once took SEDLACHEK to Istanbul and presented him to WENIA. This astonished Subject very much as SEDLACHEK was a convinced Nazi and the only Christian with whom the JOINT people wanted to deal. Subject does not know whether SEDLACHEK also carried letters but he thinks so.

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57. One day in the autumn of 1942, WENIA asked Subject to transmit a letter to a certain LAUFFER who lives in the Materer, in the same building with the Cook Wagon-Lits Co. He had no time to do it. However, WENIA sometimes gave him stacks of letters to transmit to secret JOINT people everywhere, and he asked his fiancée to deliver the letter which she did. Subject asserts that he never saw LAUFFER, but that he had heard that he was once in Ast Prague and later was working for GEFRORNER as a very important agent in the Balkans. He has always wondered what WENIA's connections were with LAUFFER. During their arrest GEFRORNER expressed the suspicion that it was actually LAUFFER who had betrayed him, SCHWARTZ and WIENINGER.

G. INTERROGATOR'S COMMENTS

58. Subject seems to be a quiet, calm and intelligent person. He gave the impression that he has told the truth and most of his assertions can, we hope, easily be verified.

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