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	CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT	REPORT NO.
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	Y Germany (Russian Zone)	DATE DISTR. 15 February 194
SUBJEC	f The Bacteriological Research Institute on the Island of Riems	NO. OF PAGES 5
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ito Jor / Manufar Miller (S/LG Color 1939 Stissen	was a feelow of the Rockefeller Fermittien in Princeto he states, he was advanced to assistant professor and He did not try to obtain U.S. citizenship. He returned was at Giessen University as a lecturer, mostly engage and was drafted into the German army in <b>1942</b> the army to work at the Riems Institute. While there full professor of Berlin University as a specialist if and micro-biology. (He traveled between Riems and Ber He was head of the Riems Institute's micro-biological was appointed Director of the Institute in 1948.	as a leading figure orn 27 June 1906 in nary medicine at rom 1932 to 1938 he n, New Jersey, where, associate professor, to Germany in 1938, d in research on the of an addition he was released from factories to veterinary hygienios of an addition veterinary hygienios of a statements
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In the spring of 1944, high SS officers came to Riems and requested large. L. supplies of dried HMD virus to be left behind the retreating German armies. in Russia. When the Institute refused this request, the matter was taken to high authorities in Berlin, but the scheme was abandoned after the Insti- that for tute proved that the project would have the boomerang effect of spreading the disease from Russia to Germany.

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Between 1942 and 1944/ the committee did research on rinderpest with an eye to introducing this disease into the United States as well as protecting Shot furn Germany in case enemies should introduce it on a large scale into Germany. 5. No practical results came from this project.

## Dismantling of the Institute

6. When on 2 May 1945 Marshal Rokossovsky's troops occupied Riems Island, they started to pilfer the Institute. They were informed a few days later that the Institute had been placed under the personal protection of Stalin. At that time the Institute was working mainly on the production of vaccine . against HMD, Newcastle's disease, and human influenza, in close cooperation with the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institute for Biology. Between July and October 1945, the Institute was completely dismantled by two commissions - one army and one civilian. The army commission took away about 10,000 guinea pigs; three ultra centrifuges with 40,000 to 50,000 revolutions per minute, which served the purpose of throwing out small disease bearers; a quantity of chemical-physical apparatus, for instance, Tiselius apparatus for the study of the effect of electrical charges on virus substance; electrical "Damp-fungswaagen"; low-temperature refrigerators; electrical refrigerators; special apparatus for the production of vaccines and serums; thermostats; water-bath equipment, etc. The dismantled equipment was loaded on large water-bath equipment, etc. The dismantled equipment was loaded on large barged, shipped to Swineminds and from there to Riga. Informant learned from personnel of the dismantling commission that the equipment was scheduled to go to the Soviet Military Veterinary Academy located 50 kilometers (di-rection unknown) from Moscow. During the dismantling by the army commission, with Russian Major Ratner, a veterinary, took a two-month course on veterinary re-search with German scientists. The civilian commission took what was left after the dismantling by the army - chiefly equipment for the production of vaccines and serums. This, too, was shipped to Russia via Swineminde/Riga, destined, members of the civilian commission said, for a veterinary institute on an island in the Lake Seliger. This institute, had been destroyed by the Sieifswald + this by Train to UK USSR. on an island in the Lake Seliger. This institute had been destroyed by the Germans during the war and was scheduled to be rebuilt and reequipped, al-though informant believes that this plan was dropped, since Major Ratner is working as an HAD specialist in the Central Control Institute for Veterinary Vaccines in Moscow, along with a Professor Swinzow, who visited Riems in June 1948, and a former Lt. Col. Ostabenko. (A Col. Tsherbatych works at the Soviet" Military Veterinary Academy.)

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- 299 1 0 When the dismantling was completed, the Russians invited the following Riems specialists to work in Russia:
  - Professor Otto Waldmann, now in Argentina, who had worked with the Instiа. tute since 1919 and was its director during the war;

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Veterinary Georg Tschaikovsky, who was in charge of the cattle belonging **>b**。 to the Institute, and who actual as interpreters

C. Pr. Just > to the institute, many the hard payments have Maldmann refused the offer, and was dismissed from the Institute; the reason " hyperty given for his dismissal was his NSAP membership. Maldmann lived in his villa? in Greifswald until called back to the Institute some time later.

(It is of interest to note that Waldmann's decision to leave the Institute and the Russians ... has not always been firm. From May to July 1945 he even prevented other Inwith the Russians, and when Dr. Traub, technical manager Rohr and chief mechanic Ahrns decided to flee and chartered three ships to take equipment with them, , , Waldmann threatened to shoot everybody who tried to leave the island.),

## Restoration

3. / Since 1945, the Russians have shown an ever-increasing interest in the Insti-> tute and have given very efficient support to the Germans in rebuilding it, y providing coal and technical equipment and returning to it an experimental farm near Kowall on the mainland just opposite Riems Island. The Russians have ordered no specific work at the Institute and have not assumed in any Way its scientific direction, although Russians come there continuously to 7 collect information. Among the more notable Russian visitors is Professor 4 Ishukakov, Stalin Prize winner, from the Moscow Institute for kesearch on 6 Brain Disease. He came twice in 1947 to obtain information on choriomeninh gitis.)

9. The Institute has done no research for war purposes, although it can be easily + and quickly used for such work at any time. In three days it can produce 3 enough dried IND virus in chicken eggs or in beef tongues to attack an energy "country by dropping the virus from the air. (The Russians eagerly collected hor func-information on this possibility. In mid-1947, Russian Col. (Lyssov), Chief of the SMA Cattle Breeding Division, came to Riems, and, asked why the Germans did not try to drop the virus on the United States during the war, adding hot fine that this would have constituted a proper answer to the indiscriminate bomb-

D. Ly. sor asher Do Theat a hickor the heat anchest at Rieme on playar from your the US SR. 10.1 The Russians have also shown an interest in the production and spreading of 7 munn meet. When the Bussians first came to Riems in 1945, they maintained 3 that during the war the Institute had done research on human; pest with a view here a to spreading it in enemy countries. It was very hard to convince them that

cactually the Institute had never engaged in such research. The only bacteri-cological (not virus) research ever done during informant's stay at Riems was 1 on svine erysipelas and brucellosis. (472- the un)

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11. ' Their interest in the war potentialities of the Institute has been proven, but, informant believes, the Russians may also be concerned with its peace time potentialities. The Germans first reestablished the laboratory for
veterinary diagnosis, then took up again the production of vaccines, bacteri ological research, and work on new vaccines - principally against swine
erysipelas, in which the Russians showed much interest. By the end of June · 1948 Riems again had a micro-biological research department working mainly on HMD, swine erysipelas, brucellosis, and dog distemper. It also had a department working on chemical aspects connected with its research, as well "as a department for the production of vaccines - mainly against HMD and New-" castle's disease. Informant estimates roughly that the Institute had by that time regained half its former capacity. (None of the equipment provided for the resumption of work was the same as that dismantled in 1945.)

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12. Between 1945 and 1948 the Riems Institute had a staff of about twenty scientists, some of whom were there for only brief periods. The permanent staff had sometimes changing personnel of about twelve scientists. The maximum number of Riems personnel, including technicians, machinists, aids, etc., was 140 prior to and during the war; it is smaller now. (full staffegani in 1944)

Staff

The present director of the Institute, appointed 1 November 1948, is Professor Heinz Rocherer, former head of its pathological department. He had been 13. an NSDAP member since 1931; the fact that the Russians kept him at Riems and have now made him director is an indication of the urgency they feel for keep-ing the Institute functioning. Two other staff members disrissed in 1945 have been recalled: Dr. Hubert Möhlmann, former production specialist for HMD and . Newcastle's disease vaccines, who had been jailed in a Neu-Brandenburg concentration camp, has been made head of the production department; Professor Gott-fried (Pyl) is supposed to return to Riems shortly to resume his former position. as head of the chemical department. Before working at Riems, Pyl had worked ... with IG Farben in Höchst; from 1947 he worked with the ASID firm in Dessau pro-No. 12 av 1 ducing vaccines. Informant considers him the best sciencific instalkovsky con-staff members now available to the Russians. Veterinery Georg Tschaikovsky conscientific staff.

14. Former Institute staff members are:

a guest, mor a. Dr. Helmuth Ruska, formerly with the Berlin-Buch Research Institute;

- Dr. Gerhard Schramm of the KWI for Biology, hormone specialist at Riems in 1944, now working at the institute of bio-chemistry affiliated with tino - (b. Tübingen University;
  - Dr. Hobahm, chemist and assistant to Professor Pyl in the chemical department, and Dr. Petermann, specialist on HMD type differentiation, working with Professor Waldmann in Argentina.
  - d. Professor Richard Roemer is not working at the Institute; his connection with it is merely that of providing cattle from his cattle-raising institute in Dummerstorf near Rostock.

#### Research by Traub

15. Informant claims that he has invented a hitherto unknown method which allows <sup>3</sup>quick differentiation of HMD virus types by complement fixation<sup>#</sup> (durch Kom-> plementbindung). This method, he says, makes it possible to determine in a , period of two hours any particular kind of virus causing HMD. This he says to be of utmost importance because counter measures against HMD depend entirely

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on the type of virus causing it. Other methods of HMD virus type determination require an average of five weeks which is such a long period that the iisease would spread before the proper kind of vaccine could be found. Only with his methods, he claims, is it possible to fight HMD successfully from isits very beginning. He has also succeeded in **return certain** types, of HMD (A virus in chicken eggs, a method so from unknown, and is applying this method at his present place of work, the Behring. Works in Marburg/Lahn, a serological and vaccine research institute. He has incombed a non-infectious vaccine dented against swine erysipelas; the latter is peculiar in consisting of killed or (dead-vaccine not coming from a live culture.

In October 1945, when Dr. Traub and other Riems Island scientists were invited by the Russians to work in Russia, he asked and received a 24-hour period in which to formulate his conditions for accepting the Russian offer. He purposely made conditions so rigid that the Russians would not agree to them; he requested, for instance, (that he be put under the diplomatic protection of a European or overseas power while working in Russia and while Germany was unable to give diplomatic protection. In November 1945, MVD officers put additional pressure on him to accept the Russian offer, but the president of the Russian Zone Central Administration for Agriculture and Forestry intervened successfully with the Russians in favor of Traub's staying in Germany.

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Approved for Release: 2023/04/17 C03157285 **CLASSIFICATION** CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (b)(3) REPORT NO. INFORMATION REPORT CD NO. COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zore) DATE DISTR. 15 February 1949 SUBJECT The Easteriological Research Institute NO. OF PAGES 5 on the Island of Riems PLACE Germany, Karlsruhs NO. OF ENCLS. ACQUIRED DATE OF INFO. 1 November 1948 Ś 쁊 KIE. LOCULERT CONTAINS NITE IN THE A VACUUM THE THE OWNER AND AND ADDRESS OF THE OWNER OWNER THE CONTAINED AND ADDRESS OF THE SEPTEMBER OF THE ADDRESS OF THE SEPTEMBER OF THE OWNER OW 24 THIS IS UNEVALUATED INEODWATION ÷, S CONVERTS IN ANY HANNER TO AD CRADINGTERED FILES. "OD DY LLW. EXPRODUCTICH OF TILE FOLD IS FLORIDITED. SOURCE by AUTIO. In (inchirgton Corners: While it is realized that the following report duplicrizes to a mean ortent information providualy disseminated in it is sent to you in its entirety for the sake of clarity and better understanding.) This report is the result of an interrogation of Dr. Erich Traub, a special-1. 3 ist in research on hoof and mouth dispase (HED), who was a leading figure in the Riams Institute from 1945 to 1948. Troub une born 27 June 1905 in Aspergelon, Mürttenberg, studied philosophy and veterinary medicine at Tubingen, Munich, Berlin, and Giessen Universities. From 1932 to 1938 be was a fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation in Princeton, New Jercey, where, he states, he was advanced to assistant professor and associate professor. 1 He did not tryin citain U.S. citizenship. He returned to Germany in 1938, 5 ¥ जन्म was at Giescen University as a lecturer, mostly engaged in research on HD, and was drafted into the Gouman arry in 1941. In 1942 he was released from the army to work at the Riens Institute. While there he was appointed a full professor of Berlin University as a specialist in veterinary hygienics and micro-biology. (He traveled between Riems and Berlin to fill both jobs.) He was head of the Riems Instituto's micro-biological department until he was appointed Director of the Institute in 1948. 舟 More at the Right Institute The Forschungeanstalt Incel Riens (virus and bacteriological research institute on the Baltic See island of Right) was founded in 1909 by Professor Friedrich Löffler, discoverer of the diphtheria bacillus. In 1942, its name us changed to Reichsforschungsanstalt Insel Richs. In 1945, it was taken over by the Russians, who dismantled it, had it rebuilt and rescuiped. It is now under the administrative authority of the German Economic Commission. The only war research done in Riems during the Hitler regime was a series of projects on HD and rinderpest, described below. In 1942, a secret committee composed of reliable Nazi ccientists and tachnicians in the Riens Institute wis assigned to study possibilition of importing HID into countries, particularly the United States, known to be unfamilier with this disease because To State /T. genole) APR 21 1949 OF SECRAT **CLASSIFICATION** 817.1**E** NAVY X 1:326 DISTRIBUTION . alcov x /48 Approved for Release: 2023/04/17 C03157285

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- 7. When the distantling was completed, the Russians invited the following Riema specialists to work in Russian
  - a. Professor Otto Maldmann, now in Argentina, the had worked with the Institute since 1919 and was its director during the war;
  - b. Veterinary Georg Tachaikovsky, the was in charge of the cattle belonging to the Institute.

Unlimanh refused the offer and was dismissed from the Institute; the reason given for his dismissal was his NSDAP membership. Maldmann lived in his vills in Greifswald until called back to the Institute some time later.

(It is of intercrt to note that Weldmann's decision to leave the Institute and the Eusgians has not always been firm. From May to July 1945 he even reveated other Inctitute members from fleeing to the Woot. He then wanted close cooperation with the Eussians, and when Dr. Traub, technical manger Rohr and chief mechanic Ahrus decided to flee and chartered three ships to take equipment with them, Waldmann threatened to shoot everybody who tried to leave the island.)

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- 3. Since 1945, the Russians have shown an ever-increasing interest in the Institute and have given very efficient support to the Germans in rebuilding it, providing coal and technical equipment and returning to it an experimental farm near Kouall on the mainland just opposite Riems Island. The Russians have ordered no specific work at the Institute and have not ascened in any way its scientific direction, although Russians come there continuously to collect information. Among the more notable Russian visitors is Professor Takewakev, Stalin Frize winner, from the Noscow Institute for Research on Brain Disease. He came tukee in 29/7 to obtain information on chorizamin-gitis.)
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- 12. Between 12.5 and 1248 the Riems Institute had a staff of about twenty scientists, the 2 when were there for ally brief periods. The permanent staff had considered than jung personnel of a bout trelve scientists. The maximum number of 2000 personnel, including technicians, machinists, aids, etc., was 140 prior to had foring the war; it is smaller now.
- 13. The present director of the Institute, synchroid 1 November 1948, is Professor Reins Restoring former head of its rathelesical department. He had been an NEL 2 which close 1931; the fact that the Russians kept him at Riems and have a social him director is an indication of the ungancy they feel for keeping the listing functioning. Two other risif members discussed in 1945 have been concluded for hubble restored for a production specialist for HMD and Reversel's director was used and the production department. For HMD and Reversel's director was not had been failed in a Feu-Brandenburg concentration of the production department; Professor Gotte Fried but is represed to return to Riems shorth to resure his former position as had of the production department; Professor Gotte fried but is represed to return to Riems shorth to Reims, Pyl had worked with the ASID firm in Dessau production to return the best scientific head of the Riems static termines. Informant consisters him the best scientific head of the Riems static termines. Informant consisters him the best scientific head of the Riems static termines. Informant consisters him the best scientific head of the Riems static termines. Informant consisters him the best scientific head of the Riems static termines. Informant consisters him the best scientific head of the Riems static termines at the Institute. He is the only GD rember among the entire constantion staff.
- M. Former Institute staff members are:
  - a. Jr. Jelmith Ruska, formerly with the Berlin-Buch Research Institute;
  - b. Cr. Jonkeri Schramm of the KVI for Biology, hormone specialist at Riens in 1944, now working at the insuitute of bio-chemistry affiliated with Thistory University;
  - c. Dr. Etakin, chemist and assistant to Professor Pyl in the chemical departnumber. For Potermann, specialist on PAD type differentiation, working with Professor aldmann in Argentika.
  - d. Fristor Richard Roemer is not working at the Institute; his connection with it is perely that of providing cattle from his cattle-raising institive in Durmarstorf near Rostock.

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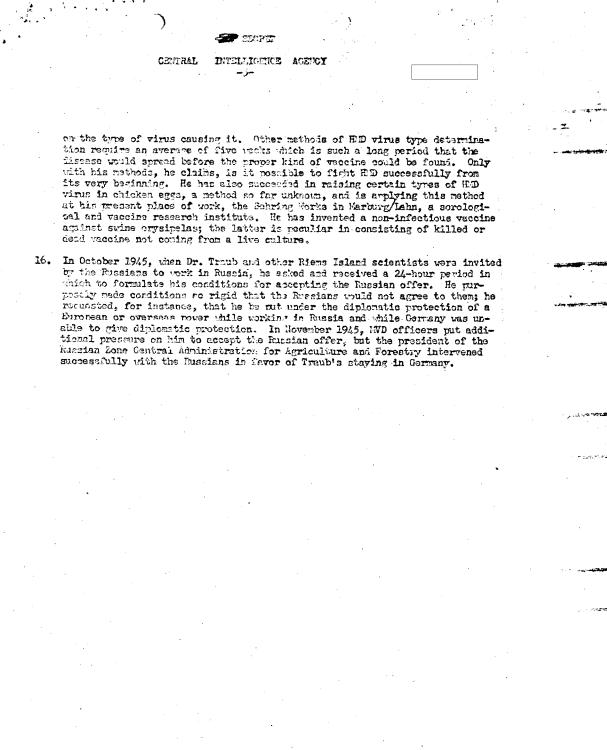
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