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American Embassy

Cairo, Egypt, April 25, 1953

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Participants: The German Ambassador  
G. Lewis Jones

Copy to: Colonel Greenlee  
American Embassy, Bonn

Subject: Dr. Voss and His Friends

The German Ambassador called on me today at his request. The Ambassador's interest, in addition to reading a selected group of reports on the Sudan, was to make available to this Embassy the contents of a telegram which he had just sent to Bonn regarding Dr. Voss and his friends. The Ambassador said his source was a very reliable German officer.

The following is the substance of the German Ambassador's telegram:

1. Dr. Voss has been playing a double game since October 1952 when he began, together with his friend, Hartselt, to try to get the Egyptian Government to boycott German goods.
2. Voss, Hartselt and Khorsany are in touch with former SS officers in Syria, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.
3. Among the group of German military experts closely cooperating with each other are Voss, Major Mertins and Colonel Ferchl. The latter was a former member of the German General Staff and curiously enough was liberated by the USSR in 1950. (The Ambassador said no other members of the German General Staff have been liberated since 1946.) Ferchl was employed shortly after liberation as a military expert in Egypt.
4. In March 1953 Ferchl visited Germany where he received detailed secret information on the armament of the future German divisions from Dienststelle Blank (shadow war ministry). Ferchl has kept this information secret from the German officers but has passed it on to Voss.

5. Ferchl

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5. Ferchl and Martins are in touch with two Russian women. One (married) lives in Port Said and visited Rumania and Bulgaria in 1952. The other lives in Cairo. The Ambassador expects to receive names and addresses shortly.
6. Voss is planning to hire a number of former SS and Gestapo members for service in Egypt. The exact kind of service is unknown but he believes it may be either for guerrilla or secret police work.
7. Voss has four Czechs working with him. He pretends that these are Sudeten Germans and has asked the German Embassy to give them passports (refused). One of these Czechs (name available if desired) was recently given by the German Embassy an entry visa for Germany on a travel document of the Egyptian Government. The Ambassador warned the German Government regarding this individual.
8. The Ambassador commented: "If we don't get busy we may have here another Operation Cicero."

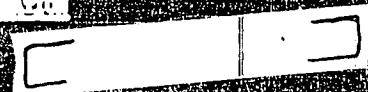
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The Ambassador said that Colonel Grawiec had inquired regarding a Mr. Rauff. The Ambassador can confirm that there is a Rauff (first name unknown) in Egypt. He does not work with the German officers and is not in touch with them. The Ambassador asked that Colonel Grawiec supply him with the first name of the "Rauff" upon whom he seeks information.

The Ambassador said that there is a Rauff who is a Pole and who organized the gassing of the Jews in Poland. In May-June 1942 this Rauff flew to General Rommel's headquarters to discuss with him the liquidation of the Jews in Cairo following the capture of that city by the German forces. Rommel was disgusted and sent him home.

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