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Worms and me Records

17 June 1953

TO: 25, 25.50, 25.40

From: 25.50/C

Subject: Meeting with WORMS, @Weber,@Parker, V-3597

1. As a follow-up to W.'s request to meet him privately, I arranged same on the evening of 16 June. It will be recalled that at an operational meeting on 5 June 1953 (my first with W. since my return from home leave) we succeeded in detaching ourselves from the other Org members present. At that time W. informed me that [] had once told him that if he ever had any problems I was the person to contact on the American side. During the course of our short chat (which didn't last more than ten or fifteen minutes) he stated (1) that he did not plan to remain with ZIPPER; (2) that he planned to emigrate; (3) that he had some interesting CI leads that he wished to turn over to the American side for exploitation; and (4) that he wished to meet me privately at his home, providing me with a telephone number and address. 25 gave his approval to the follow-up meeting, and it was discussed briefly with 25.50 and 25 on the morning of 16 June. Since I was to have another official operational meeting with CSW on that day-I thought that I might have another opportunity to speak with W. This proved not to be the case since someone of the ZIPPERites present always managed to be on the scene, even though I attempted a few ruses. Since I knew of 25's desire to meet with W. before any decision was reached by ZIPPER, and since I knew that W. would be out of town today I contacted him by telephone at 2020 hours on 16 June. This was accomplished from the separate military phone located on [] desk. ~~The~~ ~~sub~~ (MM 6247). W. answered the phone, established identity immediately but had difficulty in understanding my double talk as to where we should meet (Haus der Kunst). Meeting was laid on for 2045. I took his movie screen with me (as requested by []) parked behind the H.d.K. and met W. at the main entrance. we adjourned to the cocktail lounge.
2. After the usual formalities, I stated that I was unaware that he had ever met privately with [] and his wife, that I was shocked to hear that he had intended to leave ZIPPER and very surprised to learn that he planned to emigrate. I also apologized for the short notice of the meeting, stating that I had wanted to mention it openly at the meeting earlier that day but felt that in view of his earlier attitude to conceal it from other ZIPPERites this was probably not a wise move (in other words I attempted to minimize the clandestine nature of our meeting vis-a-vis the ZIPPERites) From this point the discussion concerned itself with the reason for his ~~xx~~ unhappiness, and his desire to leave, as follows:
 - a. while happy with his job as such, he was not at all happy with the people and organization he had to deal with, and was not in accord with their "German concept". He was also very tired of "Prussian militarism" which typified the Org from the top down, and knew that he could never attain any position within it because he had never worn an epaulet (officers') on his shoulder. He was depressed that the ability of Org members was judged by previous rank and not ability.
 - b. He was not in accord with the deliberate ZIPPER policy of telling the friendly side just as little as they have to know; he thought this to be unfair in view of the help we have given the Org and are still giving. (with particular reference to the lean years in Germany)

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- c. That he feels more like being a Czech when he sees the "German concept" in action and feels that once the Org becomes legal they will be more unbearable than they are now, so he wants out.
- d. He feels that they either don't know or don't want to try to solve the III situations which arise in his group. In this connection he stated that he decided to send MECHANIK back to the CSR after two months of no action from Hqs since the bird was just costing him money and no action or mention of intended action was forthcoming. He had no good word for the 40 section.
- e. That he wanted more contact with the friendly side but that this was sabotaged as often as possible.
- f. He made the following comments (during our talk) on ZIPPERites with whom he has contact:

Kuehne: a good man who is able to comprehend the friend's problems, and who appears to be fair with respect to the friendly side.

Hammer: a nice boy, an opportunist, but nothing really on the ball.

Winter: the grand old man of the Org who has been shoved around by the 2 rote Rosen" boys. One of the few Fadhmann that the Org has, who understands W. and his problems. A person to be trusted.

Mommert: A nice old man, basically a politician, but not real IS man

Schneider: The standard bearer of the "German concept". Once at a meeting in the "Klubhaus" S. had gathered all GV, UV, and Operation Group leaders together. During a discussion which followed, @Hoebbel of 36 was discussing a new agent radio set which was ready for full production except that certain parts, essential for the set, could not be obtained from German sources and had to await procurement, i.e., help from the friendly side. At this point DR. S. stood up and blew his cork "warum muessen wir uns auf die Amerikaner stuetzen, das ist eine reine deutsche Angelegenheit!" This, according to W. is indicative of a really stupid man, making a stupid statement. His feeling was that S. could have thought that way but did not have to blow off in that manner to the assembled group.

3. Having expounded at some length on this theme he then referred to some "interesting cases" which he felt could not be handled by the Org, and which he would like to pass on to me for exploitation by CIC. He apologized for not having all of the written material with him due to the short notice of our meeting.

- a. He knew of a Dr. Ewald RUDOLF, an attorney living in Munich, who travelled illegally back and forth into the CSR. He rendered legal assistance to the KPD in Munich and held a position within the KP in the CSR. W. claims to know that this man is interested in "working for the West" and that he, W., knows the name of the person through whom Rudolf can be contacted. The above story he claims to have confirmed from three different sources. This might well be bait for us to bite on.
- b. That Formel (V-21628) while in Oberursel came to know many U.S. Army officers who have vouched for his recruitment in the U.S. Army. (Formel was the CSE agent who was caught and turned by the STB 1-st summer) That a suspicious person, suspected of being an STB agent disappeared from Valka at the same that Formel was turned loose. From this W. deduces that this is a planned penetration of the U.S. Army. This appears to have little or no value.

4. W. also recalled how he enjoyed working with Dr. Eaden (Stan of MOB) on the MECHANIK case in Oberursel. He elaborated on their mutual interest in psychology their collaboration on organizing questions, and the very apparent ability of Dr. Eaden. He did not mention that he himself had been run.

5. In connection with the emigration discussion he made the following remarks:

- a. He wanted to emigrate for the sake of his three boys (oldest 18)
- b. That he was making good progress in getting a job with Seaboard and Western Airlines in Frankfurt when the deal fell through because of the agreement to reestablish German civil air lines, which caused S and W to cut back.
- c. That he was in contact by mail with a Mrs. John Sherwood Fleek of Shaker Heights, Ohio. She was the mother of a Lt. he came to know in C.

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- d. That although he had not begun any emigration processing he thought he might represent a German or other European textile firm in the U.S.. However, he was so interested in his work at present that he might like to continue IS work in some capacity in the U.S. or Canada.
 - e. That he had no possible sponsors in the U.S.
 - f. I closed the emigration discussion by stating that if ~~xxxxxx~~ I could ever be of any assistance to him in his emigration problems he should feel free to call on me.
6. Most of the conversation was in English. It broke up at 2340. He took his screen back.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Nothing really startling was obtained as a result of the talk, and ~~xxx~~ it was a disappointment from my point of view.
- 2. The two offerings were the same two made during our quick chat at his place on 5 June. (admittedly he did not have the written material) But serve as peace offerings or goodwill gestures on his part to the AIS.
- 3. That the whole purpose of the meeting was to reestablish a direct contact with the friendly side, which had been broken when [] left. His attitudes to the Org are well known, his feeling toward Winter are too, the leads don't amount to much unless the first one is bait.
- 4. The whole affair, if he is clean, ~~xxxxxx~~ smacks of the old [] confidential talks, with the mere hint of a desire to be an Ameriden IS agent (see para 5d.) If he is not clean, he has at least reestablished contact with the AIS directly. (Incidentally he did not press for the present whereabouts of [], of which I denied any knowledge, and claimed not to have any sort of contact between Bunce and myself)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That I sit back and wait and see what he comes up with vis-a-vis his cases which he wishes to turn over, until we hear what the Org.'s plans are.
- 2. That we leave the rest of the initiative up to him
- 3. That the moment a decision is reached by the Org., ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ some plan be organized that his confidence in me is not destroyed (if we plan to do something with him further if he later proves to be clean)

~~xxxxxxx~~
Hand

1) Heard
2) Curran
1, 2, 3
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