

Chief, EUR
Chief of Base, Berlin
Chief of Station, Germany
Chief, WH

Chief of Base, Munich

CATUSK/DJVAULT
Request for BDC Check and Trace

EGF-A-45274, 16 Jul 67 (32-65-34/3)

1. CATUSK (Operational security) is requesting a Berlin Document Center check on the following individuals:

A. Willem #SASSEN van ELSLO
DPOB: 16 April 1918, Gertrudenberg bei Breda,
Federal Republic of Germany

Munich files contain no index cards on Subject (Please see paragraph 4, below)

B. Frederico (Fritz) #SCHWEND
DPOB: 4 November 1906, Heilbronn, Federal Republic
of Germany

According to Munich records, Subject is also known as

Fritz #SCHWEND
Fritz Paul #SCHWEND-HERMANN
Fritz Paul #HERMANN
Vongeslav #SCHWEND
Frederico #SCHWEND
Friedrich #SCHWEND, alias #WENDIG, alias Dr. #BAUER,
alias Major #KEMP, alias Wenceslau #TURI
born 6 November 1906 in Bochingen, or Bochingen,
or Heilbronn, Federal Republic of Germany.

He has, to say the least, a dubious background, being recorded as in charge of the RSHA program involving the manufacture of false currency (British pounds) for financing GIS operations before and during World War II. (Full details should be available in his Headquarters file.) Please note that the file indicates that he and his wife Hedda escaped to Lima, Peru, from Germany through Italy and Spain in September 1946.

Attachments:

- A. BDC forms, h/w
- B. Name trace forms, h/w

Distribution:

- 4 - EUR w/att B
- 2 - Berlin/att
- 2 - Germany w/o att
- 2 - WH w/o att

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FOR COORDINATION WITH Army

2. The Munich file contains a positive BDC reply on SCHWEND (EGMA 75135, 2 May 1963) which was conducted for WOFIRM as requested in MUNI 5532, 3 April 1963. The file also indicates that SCHWEND was traced for the Peruvian G-2 (USID 3016, 12 October 1959, IN 8559), and also for CATUSK as Operational interest (MUNI 4699, 7 February 1963).

3. We request that Berlin retrace the BDC on SCHWEND so that we may have current copies of the positive reply for passing to CATUSK. We would rather not inform CATUSK that a BDC check had already been conducted on SCHWEND in 1963.

4. On the same day that Munich Base received the request on SCHWEND, we also received the request on SASSEN van ELSLOO (Subject paragraph 1.A., above). Upon reviewing the Base file on SCHWEND, we noted that EGMA 45274, 16 January 1967 forwarded a report from a source of LNREAD which discusses the activities of SCHWEND in Latin America and his reported affiliation with the intelligence services of Peru and Bolivia (also see EGMA 69941, 25 January 1967), and his involvement with MEREX A. G. (owner Gerhard Georg MERTING, [] representatives in dealings in West German surplus munitions. Please note that paragraph 6 of the LNREAD report mentions the name SASSEN van ELSLOO as a former German SS officer who had then been living in Argentina for some 18 years and was a partner in the firm TECHICUM, S. A., Buenos Aires, a firm appointed by MEREX to represent their interests in Argentina.

5. The CATUSK request to Munich Base on SCHWEND makes no mention of any past reference concerning his name trace traffic which we have exchanged with them. Two factors can be considered:

- A. It is not unusual for CATUSK to request traces without first checking their own files and, therefore, failing to realize that they have information on the Subject.
- B. It is possible that SCHWEND is indeed an agent of CATUSK whom they may well be using as a penetration of the Peruvian and/or Bolivian Services. In that case CATUSK may have purposely made no mention of the past traffic on SCHWEND, and forwarded the request on SASSEN van ELSLOO simultaneously in order to test us for whatever information, in addition to our normal BDC reply, we may send in reply concerning the two men (especially the information reported by the LNREAD source of paragraph 4 above).

6. With Headquarters concurrence Munich Base intends to forward the positive BDC reply on SCHWEND and whatever turns up from the BDC on SASSEN van ELSLOO both in the same memorandum, since they were received from the same office on the same day. We will direct CATUSK'S attention to the past correspondence on SCHWEND, and will make no further mention concerning SASSEN van ELSLOO. At the same time we will query CATUSK as to their current interest in SCHWEND. Please advise.

7. Berlin: BDC forms are attached. Please forward one copy each of all available information to EUR and Munich Base.

8. Chief, EUR: Name trace forms are attached for tracing CONFERG.

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