

SECRET

LBX-435

13 July 1946

TO : AP 51, Antzen
FROM : AB 16, Berlin 16
SUBJECT : Project proposal for CIB : GAMBIT

1. Pursuant to your oral request of yesterday the following draft of a proposal for GAMBIT is submitted for your rewriting and submission to CIB.

2. "As an aid to current and prospective double agent operations against Soviet Intelligence Stations lying outside Berlin it is proposed to place Frau BEETZ in OMGUS as a secretary in the near future. As is now well known, one of the principal targets of the Soviet Intelligence System is the penetration of important American offices at OMGUS. In the process of doubling back Soviet agents dispatched on such a mission, it almost inevitably becomes necessary to use as a cut-out someone actually employed inside the Soviet target-office, in order to give the Soviet controlling officers the illusion that their agent has in fact contacted a well-placed source of information. Such a decoy or "sitting duck" placed inside the soviet target would be subject to our complete control and, by giving the Soviets increasing confidence in the success of their operation, enable our penetration of their service to achieve greater results.

3. "In the past friendly and secure American officers have sometimes cooperated with us as "sitting ducks", but the Soviets do not, for understandable reasons, appear to trust such a contact of their agent as much as a well-placed German secretary. It is therefore deemed imperative to have at least one, but preferably two or three, German decoys inside the target. Newly discovered Soviet agents can then be directed - probably unconsciously - to the decoy for neutralization, and doubled agents already under our control can use the sitting duck as camouflaging support for their delicate double role.

4. "Candidate BEETZ possesses the essential qualifications for the above role. First, her capacity to take shorthand in English and German, plus her earlier office experience, will enable her in her own right to procure a secretarial position in a policy-making OMGUS office. Second, her extensive experience with Amt VI, RSHA, makes her a professional able to handle the intricate relationships involved in top-level double agent operations. Third, our control over her is complete. She can be described as one of the few Germans with genuine anti-Nazi convictions developed prior to and during the war. She has strong westward orientations. Lastly, as insurance, her husband is a German officer now in American custody.

5. "Frau Beetz's particulars follow. Born, 16 September 1919, at Obernissa near Weimar. Attended high school in Leipzig. Assigned in 1939 by Arbeitsamt to SD-Abschnitt/Weimar, with which she had little sympathy. She succeeded in being reassigned to Amt VI in Berlin and eventually to Italy (July 1940 to November 1941) (later, from July 1942 to August 1943) where she served as an interpreter, translator, and eventually, agent case-officer. Her contact with Amt VI ended in Weimar in January 1945.

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6. "Frau BEETZ was interrogated by OSS/SCI upon capture in Weimar in June 1945 and later proposed for a double agent project in the American Zone. The project was approved by CIB but for incidental reasons failed. She was then held more or less in protective custody pending the appearance of a new project fitted to her special talents.

7. "As a prelude to the formal proposal of the project to CIB, the responsible security officials of OMGUS were approached concerning their attitude toward the candidate. Impressed by the increasingly numerous attempts of the Soviets to penetrate OMGUS they concurred that the project was desirable and asked us to expedite the matter.

8. "This project should not be confused with the intermittent investigations of security suspects inside OMGUS, which has always been handled by CIC/BERLIN. Any leads to such suspects which might grow out of this essentially double agent operation will be referred to Berlin/CIC for such action as they deem advisable!"

9. "If the project meets with CIB's approval, Frau Beetz will be assigned the code name GAMBIT."

10. Apart from the above, for the special information of AB 51, subject is well, happy, and has got practically all of the investigations and paper work behind her. Today she is issued the OMGUS pass etc and should start work in the near future.

Distribution

1 AB 51
1 GAMBIT

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