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OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM

MGB-A-498

BSC/Ops/151
Berlin
23 September 1947

TO : Chief, Foreign Branch "M"
 FROM : Chief of Station, Heidelberg, Germany
 SUBJECT: CALESA -- Security Violation
 REF : BSC/Ops/126

NOTE: CALESA, after an unsuccessful attempt at foisting off on us a notional double agent proposition (cf BSC/Ops/126), returned to the U.S. Zone on the Military Train on 15 August. He shared a compartment with CAMISE. The following is an account of statements alleged to have been made by CALESA. Our source is CAMISE, whose reliability we value highly. CALESA, according to CAMISE, was extremely nervous and obviously anxious to unburden himself. He requested CAMISE to peruse his travel orders (because he could not understand English) to determine whether they contained a clause instructing the MP's at his destination to rearrest him. Thus CAMISE learned his true name. He talked to her rather incoherently, but with seeming candor. This was his story:

1. During the war he had worked for the German Waffenamt. CAMISE gathered from certain veiled hints that he had been concerned with V-weapons. Since the end of the war the Americans had arrested him three times on charges of willingly giving technical information to the Russians while refusing to give similar information to the Americans. On this trip he had been taken by car to Berlin from his house in Heidelberg and lodged in the Wannsee Detention Center. After a few days he had been given permission to move to his mother's house in the U.S. Sector of Berlin and given American rations. He had on repeated occasions been questioned--the last time by six Americans. However, he had refused to talk.

2. When CAMISE asked him several ostensibly naive questions about CIC, CALESA volunteered that his interrogators had not been CIC men but members of the "Secret Service". At a previous sojourn in Berlin, also for purposes of interrogation, he had, he said, lived at the guest house of the "Secret Service" in Zehlendorf. There he had become acquainted with several of their agents. This time they had not been so accommodating. A friend of his supposed that they were in bad humor because one of their "nets" in the Russian Zone had been blown ("geplatzt").

3. CALESA mentioned that he knew how to get across the Italian border, and that he was planning to go to Rome at an early date to talk to a member of the Argentine Mission. There he hoped to arrange for his emigration to the Argentine, where people with his special technical knowledge and experience are needed.

Source Comment: I cannot tell to what extent the story told me by CALESA was truth, and to what extent fiction.

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His talk certainly was not that of a complete layman. My impression also was that he was involved in black marketeering on a considerable scale.

Field Comment: There is no need to expatiate on the obvious implications of this security break. CALESA did not, in fact, divulge the true purpose of his trip to Berlin, but the information he did release was sufficient in CANISE's mind to tie him in with our organization. The related incident merely reaffirms our considered view that CALESA is a constant threat to the security of our organization and that he will probably cause further serious trouble for us. Following a successful outcome of our trial run in the case of [redacted], who will soon be placed under indictment for having given false information to U.S. authorities, we shall recommend that CALESA's case be re-opened with a view to bringing him to book for his flagrant disregard of U.S. interests.

[redacted]
Chief, SC Berlin

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