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ATTACHMENT TO EGLA- 10917

POB Traces of Dr. Kurt BEHNKE

1. MGFA-3429, 19 Jan. 1950

Dr. Kurt BEHNKE, now acting Chief of Civil Service Matters in the Interior Ministry. In his commentary to the Reich Disciplinary Code, published on 25 Jan. 1937, Carl Hermann Verlag, Berlin, BEHNKE wrote the following: "The duties of the Civil Servant require absolute faith in the Fuehrer and an uncompromising attitude in following the aims of the National Socialistic State". He further wrote: "A civil servant may be considered guilty if he exempts himself from furthering the National Socialistic cause, which is identical with the "National Socialist State". On page 82 of his book, BEHNKE wrote: "It is naturally the moral duty of every civil servant to join the NSV". Also "It is the duty of the civil servant to refrain from contact with Jews, especially in his private life. It is an unusually grave violation of the civil servant's oath to disregard the government's policy in the Jewish question. The civil servant must also prevent his children's playing with Jewish children. Sexual intercourse with a Jew, especially by a female civil servant, must be cause for dismissal, even if the intercourse (by female civil servants) took place before the promulgation of the Nuernberg laws."

BEHNKE's former position in Nazi government was Oberregierungsrat in Interior Ministry, later assigned to the Disciplinary Court. Note that Hans GLOBKE had an identically described job in the Nazi government.

2. MGLA-5986, 5 April 1951 (Tessier)

"b. CAPOTE is alleged to have been introduced into the Abwehr in 1934 by Dr. Kurt BEHNKE, then one of CANARIS' personnel officers, subsequently Chief of the Central Registry in the Rote Kapelle case. His connections with certain persons and events are not entirely clear. He also has a brother, Heinz, practicing medicine in Berlin/Mahlow (Soviet Zone). BEHNKE is now Chief of Abteilung II in the Federal Ministry of the Interior, and enjoys a good reputation. We have long carried him on our list of ZIPPER Special Connections. His staff contact, LERSNER, has even made a point of referring to him as "mein guter Freund." More recently, LERSNER has contented himself with unostentatious reference simply to "Dr. BEHNKE."

3. MGLA-6128, 14 April 51, Sp. Conn. List

BEHNKE, Dr. Kurt, Chief of Abteilung II (Personnel) in Federal Ministry of the Interior. Staff contact: LERSNER

4. 30 memo to 25, 21 March 51

(Translation) "Connection between HEINZ (F.W.)- Dr. BEHNKE. The attached schematic shows the relationships among a certain group of people connected with HEINZ. In this presentation, Ministerial dirigent Dr. Kurt BEHNKE of the Bundes Interior Ministry plays a role. HEINZ himself was allegedly brought into the Abwehr by Dr. BEHNKE in 1934. At the time Dr. BEHNKE was in the Canaris office (Abwehr) and worked on one part of "Personalien". (Unclear whether this personnel matters or personalities of intell. interest). It is said that HEINZ has never forgotten this favor and to this day supports Dr. BEHNKE financially (sic.).

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30 memo Continued

HEINZ is also connected to Dr. Heinz BEHNKE, brother of Kurt BEHNKE, - - Heinz B. is a Dr. in Berlin/Mahlow, East Zone. Dr. Kurt BEHNKE is also in contact with SIBEKE, fnu, formerly textile wholesaler in Warsaw and Lublin. During 1940/41 SIBEKE was "fuer die Abwehr freigestellt" by Dr. BEHNKE. SIBEKE was in connection with Polish Resistance. In 1949 SIBEKE founded a textile firm in Koenigsallee, Duesseldorf. He is also said to have supported Dr. BEHNKE with money, even to present.

5. Dr. Kurt BEHNKE's connection to the BfV is said to be through Frl. SCHWARTE, former CANARIS and JOHN secretary.
6. Dr. BEHNKE, Frl. SCHWARTE, Frau DAU and HEINZ are said to meet in Frankfurt/M. in Kaffee Kranzler. Proprietor of Kaffee KRANZLER is Heinz KOENIG, who was allegedly dispossessed of a large bakery in Halle in 1948, but who was able to build a new establishment in Frankfurt/M and who strangely still seems to receive money from his old business.
7. Until now, the role of Dr. BEHNKE has not been clarified. He is well thought of in the Interior Ministry. It is perhaps an accident or coincident that he appears to be involved with the circle of people around HEINZ.
8. Att. to EGNA-1297, 9 March 53, 211, HICOG Bio Survey No. 32 Curt BEHNKE (Dr.) Ministerialdirigent, has been appointed (Between February 13 and 19, 1953) President of Federal Disciplinary Court (Bundesdienststrahof).
9. BRUNF-2494, 9 Feb. 50, CAPOTE offered the job of deputy to BfV Chief, and asked to come to Bonn discuss details with von LEX. Top job not yet decided upon. Supposedly offered Dr. BEHNKE, who declined. (Cable is ambiguous and does not make clear whether BEHNKE declined deputy or chief position).
10. PULLF-1923, 27 March 51, 230.54
Cable discusses ZIPPER position re formation and activities of BfV, and reads "In this connection (other chancellery channels considered insecure by ZIPPER for transmittal of intelligence to German government) ZIPPER increasingly concerned over CE aspects possible LENZ-Josef MUELLER-CAPOTE-BEHNKE-ROTE KAPELLE connections.
11. MGFA-3989, 25 July 1950, 230.53,
Pouch by Albert W. Kissinger. "2. An hour later on the same evening, I met CARAVEL and he startled me by stating that his new secretary, who formerly worked for Dr. BEHNKE of the Ministry of the Interior, told him in great confidence about CAPOTE, a former Abwehr man who now works for the American Intelligence Service. BEHNKE, she says, likes CAPOTE (i) and would appoint him head of the Verfassungsschutz if he had final say. CAPOTE frequently visits BEHNKE, she said. This may well explain the rumors in the Ministry that BEHNKE had too close connections to the Americans and was in danger of losing his job.

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