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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
 SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
 DATE 2001 2008

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION	PROCESSING ACTION
		SECRET	X MARKED FOR INDEXING
TO	Chief, Africa Division ✓		NO INDEXING REQUIRED
INFO.	Chief of Station, Germany, Bonn, FROB, Muni [ ] [ ] [ ]		ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING
FROM	[ ] [ ] [ ]		MICROFILM
SUBJECT	0 (fnu) BEISSNER		
ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES			
REFERENCES: [ ] [ ] 8 December 1965, (para 3) FROB 0855, 18 January 1966, (para 3)			
ACTION REQUIRED: None; for your information			
1. After [ ] [ ] and we failed to find any cards on (fnu) BEISSNER German national, apparent DOB 1921 Alleged arms dealer in Tunisia, connected with Richard Ludwig Wilhelm CHRISTMANN			
[ ] wrote the following from memory:			
a. In the summer of 1962, [ ] [ ] offered to introduce [ ] [ ] to BEISSNER whom he described as a German arms dealer, deeply involved with one faction of the Provisional Algerian Government (GPRA), who had lost a leg when the "Red Hand" tried to blow up his car in Germany. [ ] [ ] said BEISSNER owned a villa across the street from Staff Agent [ ] [ ] villa in Gammarth. [ ] [ ] said that he had mentioned to BEISSNER that he had an American acquaintance whom he would like to introduce to him, and that BEISSNER was very receptive to the suggestion. On instructions from [ ] [ ] [ ] declined [ ] [ ] offer and he never met BEISSNER although [ ] [ ] renewed the invitation several times.			
ATTACHMENT: Iden - USC			
DISTRIBUTION: Orig & 2 - C/AF 1 - COS, Germany 1 - Bonn 1 - FROB 1 - Muni 1 - [ ]			
1 AH		CS COPY [ ] [ ]	
CROSS REFERENCE TO	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER	DATE	
	ATTA-5103	21 January 1966	
	CLASSIFICATION	HQ'S FILE NUMBER	
	SECRET	[ ] [ ]	

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 per DOI 70-17

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CONTINUATION OF  
DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO.

SECRET

ATA-5103

b. When [ ] reappeared briefly in the spring of 1965,  
[ ] asked him about

Richard Ludwig Wilhelm \*CHRISTMANN  
DPOB 12 November 1905, Montigny-les-Metz,  
German National, former Gestapo intel agent,  
Suspected arms smuggler, intelligence agent in  
in North Africa after World War II.  
Resided Tunis until autumn 1965 when moved Algiers.  
Arrested by Algerian Military Intelligence November 1965.

[ ] replied that he did not know CHRISTMANN personally, but BEISSNER  
was acquainted with him and the two met frequently.

c. Hans-Georg LANG, German shipping representative now in  
Alexandria, Egypt, mentioned BEISSNER in the spring of 1965 as an acquaintance  
of CHRISTMANN, and added that "people like CHRISTMANN and BEISSNER" have  
good reasons for not returning to Germany.

d. [ ] mentioned BEISSNER on one or two occasions in  
1965 as being a visitor to [ ]

2. On 18 January 1966 [ ] asked [ ] about BEISSNER and  
was told the following: Doctor (sic) BEISSNER called on [ ] (den)  
several times in late 1964 and early 1965. He arrived at [ ] office  
in an American car, driven by a blonde woman who may be his wife. The woman  
who spoke English waited in the reception room until BEISSNER finished his  
conversations with [ ] in the latter's office. [ ] never  
made any comments on the motive of BEISSNER's visits and no correspondence  
ensued. Sometime in the early summer, 1965, after a visit by BEISSNER, [ ]  
remarked, with some irritation, "Il n'est pas sérieux, ce BEISSNER", and [ ]  
/I believes that BEISSNER has not visited [ ] since. [ ]  
described BEISSNER as about 45 years old, and limps.

3. On 19 January [ ] asked a German national employee of the  
Tunisian Government, Iden A of ATTA-4269, about BEISSNER and she said the  
following: Iden A of ATTA-4269 (hereafter referred to as Source) met BEISSNER  
in Tunis in 1959 through a Tunisian acquaintance, Cherif OKBI (or OKPI) whom  
BEISSNER had met in Germany when he had been a frequent caller at the Tunisian  
Embassy. BEISSNER made a most unpleasant impression on Source -- he was  
primitive, rude and ill-mannered. Source later learned that BEISSNER was an  
arms racketeer who had lost one leg in an attempt by a terrorist organization against  
his life in Germany. BEISSNER lived with a blonde German woman, probably his  
wife, who is known to have been unfaithful to BEISSNER, having had several  
brief affairs with Tunisians. BEISSNER seems to be well off; he owns a big  
American automobile and his blonde wife drives it. BEISSNER has been con-  
spicuously absent from all German Embassy functions. He is probably still  
resident in Gammarth. Source considers BEISSNER a soldier of fortune (Landsknecht)  
and says he has the worst imaginable reputation in the German colony, "much  
worse even than CHRISTMANN's reputation."

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FORM  
10-57 530  
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USE PREVIOUS EDITION.  
REPLACES FORMS  
51-28, 51-28A AND 51-29  
WHICH ARE OBSOLETE.

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

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