

AIR

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MGL-A- 12893

BERNAU
dossier

Chief, EE

25 August 1952

Chief of Station, Frankfurt

OPERATIONAL

ZIPPER Agents in Berlin

SECURITY INFORMATION

REF: MQQW-14487

1. We have several times asked 40 for further data on the SSD source without result, and we are currently trying again.

2. We agree with your assumption in ref para 2 that the persons mentioned in BONN-109 and MQBA-7084 may be identical with the ZIPPER agents of the same names, but we cannot make any positive statements on the matter and we doubt that ZIPPER is in any position to do so since it seems that they have probably given us most of the information that they have in their files on subjects and BONN-109 does not give any biographical data on subjects that could link them together. We appreciate your calling this matter to our attention since the research involved in clarifying it resulted in the discovery that V-4210 and V-6100 are identical. This person was dropped under the number V-6100 as reported in attachment to MGLA-12883. His true name was Helmuth ROSCH. *cd/hrs*

3. There is no doubt that some leaders of the BAER group must be considered blown to the Berlin KRIFO, the VS and presumably the British and French in Berlin. The CARP report contained in MGFA-5945 is pretty good evidence of this. VS knowledge of the matter is indicated by the fact that a VS report sent to ZIPPER and attached to MGLA-12600 (att 217) is an exact German version of CARP's report. If KRICK is actually guilty as charged of having been an SSD agent, it must of course also be supposed that the unfriendly side is informed. ZIPPER is aware of this state of affairs and tolerates it because reports from the group are of value and would go elsewhere if the group were dropped, and also because there is no evidence to indicate that the ultimate sources are affected by the fact that BAER and his immediate subordinates are rather well known all around. As you will have noted in the Master List, BAER actually has a complete staff of 35 subordinates, 23 of which are agents in East Berlin or the Soviet Zone. We have not asked for a complete list of their identities, since this is not a normal request in connection with Soviet Zone operations. We have, however, requested that all security aspects of the BAER group's operations be reviewed in view of its obviously dubious status.

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4. There is no evidence whatever that BAER was actually connected with HERRLICH, though this was at one time suspected and followed down with negative results. The BAER group may have been known to HERRLICH and any of her contacts, (assuming she had some significance as an intelligence personality, an assumption which has never been proved to our knowledge) through KRICK, but again the exact nature of the KRICK HERRLICH relationship is also indefinite. In the meantime, we understand that KRICK is now being tried in a German court as an SSD agent. We were notified in advance of this trial and asked if we had objection. On condition that KRICK's former connection to the BAER group not be mentioned in the trial, we raised no objection to the trial.

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