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Meeting with Dr. Brueckner 10 June 1956

Time: 11:00 a.m. (for brunch)
Place: []ome 9th St.)
Present: Brueckner, []

The trip planned for 10 June to show Brueckner Mt. Vernon and some old Virginia homes was cancelled because Brueckner had work waiting for him when he returned from his trip to Chicago and Milwaukee (he did not get up to New Haven.)

His program for the next two weeks was outlined for him and he seemed pleased with it. However, he suggested that we not plan too many social engagements as he would prefer to relax with the [] at night after conferences all day. He said he would like to see "Teaouse" and the races, and possibly also the ballet. (Generally [] was not around when snop was discussed--which was in keeping with her cover that she is not particularly aware of intelligence activities etc.)

Apparently State had not laid on plans for Adenauer's arrival in New York with the greatest of detail, for the party had to go through customs etc. (not Adenauer, however)--and the plane was sealed on arrival.

Brueckner will meet Adenauer when he arrives in Washington at 6 p.m. Monday night. This has been worked into the program. We will go shopping after that because Brueckner needs to have his gifts purchased before Thursday if he is to send them back to Germany on the customs-free plane.

Greuther
Brueckner again indicated that he is anxious to discuss specific cases, so I asked a bit more about Greuther. He is a Lt. in the German Air Corps who was recruited by RIS? (presumably the Soviets although this point was not pinned down), equipped with false papers (showing that he was with the Luftwaffe in the last war), and supposed to be one of about 100 who were to be infiltrated into the new Air Corps. Greuther had been formerly employed with the City Administration in Coburg. From there he went to Furstenfeldbruck where, if I understood correctly, he worked with the Americans (I assume he was getting training from them). Somewhere along the line one of the documents which he presented to establish his bona fides did not hold up, so the police searched his home and found some more false documents. This apparently was early this year. He fled to East Germany (about 4 months ago). Then just before Brueckner took off for the States on 31 May, Greuther was picked up on the street in Munich (apparently having been told to return to the West).

The above is very roughly the background on the Greuther case. It was related in German in an informal manner and may have inaccuracies in it because I did not understand each word and was very uncertain of continuity in the story. None of the above material should be taken as fact as no attempt was made to ask questions or establish exact chronology. Under the circumstances, I did not feel that I should try to clarify areas in which I was unable to follow the continuity. I will lead into this case when [] is present and I am sure Brueckner will be glad to go into detail on it.

I mentioned to [] after Brueckner had gone upstairs to write a letter home) that I was having trouble finding a place for the cocktail party. They offered their home if we feel that it is good enough and there are no security breaches involved. I said that I felt this was an imposition on them, but that we would probably be most happy to have a place. I told them I would let them know what night the party is to be held and also that if we do take them up on the offer,

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all catering etc. would be arranged. When I have a breather on Monday or Tuesday, I'll have to get to work on this.

In fact, I don't do.
Brueckner visited the family with whom his son will stay during the coming school year. They have a son about 25 or so, a daughter 16 (Patricia), and another son about 12. The exchange students are coming over on the Arosa Culm in August (or early September). There will be 800 of them. Sometime during this year the group will tour the states for 4 weeks. Presumably Washington DC will be one of the stops. [] told Brueckner that if the son wished to stop at their home he was welcome. Brueckner said he did not know what the plans were, but that he would accept the invitation for his son.

Brueckner said he wanted to give his wife an address in New York where he would be staying. I said it would probably be the Statler Hotel. At any rate, that is the address he is giving his wife. If reservations are made elsewhere, we can always arrange to have his mail picked up at the Statler.

Brueckner also said that although Adenauer has ostensibly come to the USA to pick up honorary degrees from Marquette and Yale, the real reason is to discuss the German reunification problem with Hammerskjold. Anent UN, Brueckner would like to see the UN Building. (He has already had the boatride around NYC, so [] can forget about this.) Also, I have told him that the name of his other escort is []

After dinner the conversation got down to specific^{briefs}, in which he is most interested. Roughly these are as follows: (no attempt at order will be made in discussing them)

Brueckner wants to discuss these cases:

a) the Levitsky case

b) the John case (he remarked that just before he left Bonn to come to America, a reporter for Time and Life, one John Mulliken, had approached him for statements on the John case. He asked Mulliken how he had received info that he (Brueckner) was a person to talk to on the John case. M. replied that he received this info from Washington. [] remarked that this sounded like a typical journalistic trick, and Brueckner agreed that M. was probably seeking confirmation of details rather than actual details. Brueckner said that material on the John case might not be forthcoming for another year.

c) the Greuther case (a Lt. in the Blank office who was just picked up in Munich)

Brueckner is also interested in technical facilities which can be of use to him in Germany. Among other things, he would like to know how a room or rooms can be set up to photograph a suspect so that the film can be shown to others for identification purposes. (Brueckner said that they--presumably the SG--had a good lab in Wiesbaden, and that they were pleased to show it to interested persons. A portion of the lab is on fingerprinting--but apparently any improvements which can be made would be most welcome.)

Brueckner wants to know whether we exchange personnel between services and what our findings on this are. He pointed out that he had discussed the possibility of exchanging personnel with his organization so that the two services would have an appreciation for the work of the other and to aid in smoother arrangements in working out cases of mutual concern or interest. (Brueckner's statements in this regard indicated, as [] has already pointed out, that the SG and Usporing will probably work closely together--or at any rate, that the Directors of the two outfits respect one another, and want to work out their problems. Brueckner's regard for the BfV is not great. He remarked that the BfV apprehended Sniegowski merely "by chance".)

Brueckner wants to know what we do with security risks?

When they are declared to be security risks, how do we watch them? If they were jailed and have been released, what apparatus do we have for watching them so that they can't escape with important info. (Although this was not mentioned, a case in point would be the Gerhard Eisler case.) He would like to probe this whole complex. ("What would you do with a Klaus Fuchs after his sentence has been served?") ("What legal means have we in the USA to take care of convicted traitors or spies?")

Brueckner is interested in the Communist Party and its use of Betriebsgruppe. How the Comies spot and develop. How they check for reliability. How do they choose provocateurs or harassment personnel? How do they infiltrate industry? What patterns have been established?

In passing, the Vulkan Case was brought up by [] Brueckner believes that the Vulkanites were guilty, but the case was premature and the judge was not given sufficient evidence. (At any rate, the dossiers on most of the suspects were rather small. It was implied that the Germans were not introduced into the case soon enough.) Brueckner is not interested in discussing this case.

He mentioned the Weinmann Case (*)

* Believed to be the WEINMANN Case per Smiddy.

Brueckner said he would prefer discussing topics concerning the above, rather than generalities. He said he is not too interested in discussions on such things as satellite intelligence services because generally such discussions are too broad. He would prefer to discuss specifics--so that both he, and we, can profit from such discussions.

[] said that the program as drawn up for him was exceedingly flexible and that we would try to arrange it (and revamp it) to satisfy his needs. He was pleased at the possibility of going to New York to see the police up there, and also to see a prison. Sing Sing was suggested (though [] pointed out that this was not a federal prison), and Brueckner said that this was so famous that he thought it would be very interesting to see it.

Brueckner incidentally remembers [], but [] drew a complete blank from him on the name Dennis Flinn! Perhaps he knows Flinn under another name, or perhaps he told [] that he wanted to talk to somebody in State Security and thought [] was the man.

Re. the SG itself. It now numbers 180--all men! Brueckner has a standing rule that the SG will not employ women. The men do their own secretarial work. Brueckner's secretary is "Fraulein" Mueller (a young man). He got the prefix "Fraulein" from other members of the SG. Brueckner ordered them not to call Mueller "Fraulein"---so he is now called "Frau Mueller."

Initial impression of Brueckner: Congenial, cooperative, and eager to give us info. and complete cooperation. However, this must not be a one-sided affair. Brueckner knows quite specifically what he is after. He hopes we will help him. (He remarked, incidentally, that there are two excellent places to study people---the cemetery and the racetrack...)

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