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11-9180/a

11 DEC 1959

Mr. Harold C. Deutsch
Department of History
College of Science, Literature, and the Arts
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

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DATE: 17 FEB 1981 REVIEWER: _____

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Dear Harold:

I am glad that Dick Helms reached you by telephone on 9 December to convey our view that we are unable to assist you in the matter involving General von Witsleben. I sincerely regret that we must take this position, particularly in light of my own great interest in these matters. Your willingness to write the General is much appreciated.

We have given thought to your request that we suggest foundations which might conceivably have funds for this purpose. I find your idea a good one to try Joe Johnson at Carnegie, and I would surmise that if he is unable to help you, he would be in a good position to suggest possible alternatives. We here are not particularly conversant with this aspect of foundation work, but, if you do come across any promising leads, I would be glad to assist in any way I can.

Thank you for writing me. I can only hope that I may be more helpful to you on some future occasion.

Faithfully yours,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

[Redacted] /ecd - 9 Dec 59
Distribution: Orig - addressee
2 - ER ✓
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(ER-11-9180 w/background correspondence returned herewith to ER.)

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Secret

Mr. Harold C. Deutsch
Department of History
College of Science, Literature, and the Arts
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Harold:

Many thanks for your letter of November 12 concerning General von Witzleben and the Europäische Publikationen, e.V.

After due consideration of your original proposal, [redacted]

[redacted] we did not feel that a valid CIA purpose would be served by supporting the activities of the von Witzleben group.

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I am personally deeply interested in the subject of German opposition to Nazism and wish General von Witzleben all possible success in his endeavor. However, meritorious as this activity is, it is not one which is within the scope of our responsibilities and I cannot commit funds to its support much as I might like to do so. This being the decision, I doubt that any worthwhile advantage would be gained by my discussing the matter personally with General von Witzleben.

I look forward to hearing from you again and hope that I can be more helpful on some future occasion.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Allen W. Dulles
Director

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS
MINNEAPOLIS 14

11-9180

November 12, 1959

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Mr. Allen Dulles, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Allen:

You may recall that I wrote you a year and a half ago about the desirability from the standpoint of American and Western interests of securing support for a project of the Europaeische Publikationen. This concerned a second volume to follow the very significant Vollmacht des Gewissens and to deal especially with the problems of the military in connection with resistance to Hitler. At that time you or that section of the CIA to whom you may have referred the matter regarded it of sufficient interest to direct one of your men [redacted] to pursue it further. The party in question [redacted] talked with me several times and after some months of delay and after I had left Europe also had a conference with General Hermann von Witzleben, the editor of these publications.

Last night I had a long distance conversation with General von Witzleben, who has recently arrived in New York and expects to be in this country until next spring. He tells me that he has had no final word [redacted]. I hope that this signifies that the matter is still under advisement. As my own research in the problems of the German opposition goes forward, I am more than ever convinced of the vital importance of further clarification of its role in the fight against neo-Nazi tendencies and in assuring the moral unity of Germany's present forces. I am sure that all who are now working in this area will agree that the undertaking of the Europaeische Publikationen strikes at the core of these problems as no single historian can hope to do.

General von Witzleben expects to be in Washington in the near future and I am sure that he would welcome an opportunity to discuss his problem with you or any member of your staff you might designate. He is staying with [redacted]

In view of the nature of this matter, I am asking your local office to assist me in the forwarding of this letter.
With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

Harold

Harold C. Deutsch

HCD:vl

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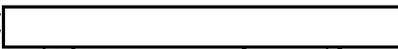
27 NOV 1959

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA: Deputy Director (Plans) 
SUBJECT: Letter from Harold C. DEUTSCH to the DCI,
dated 12 November 1959

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1. This memorandum suggests action on the part of the DCI. The action suggestion is contained in paragraph 4.

2. Mr. DEUTSCH  now at the University of Minnesota where he is doing research on the problems of the German opposition to Nazism, and at that time a Fulbright lecturer and researcher in Germany, wrote, on 12 May 1958, a letter to the DCI in which he urged CIA financial support for the second volume of a series of discussions and historical analyses of the fundamental problems of the German WW II opposition. The first volume, "Die Vollmacht des Gewissens" had previously been published by the Europaeische Publikationen, e.V. headed by General Hermann von WITZLEBEN, on whose behalf DEUTSCH's request was made. After due investigation of the matter by the EE Division  it was decided that no valid purpose would be gained by CIA support of von WITZLEBEN for this publication or related work in which his group is engaged.

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3. This matter was again examined upon receipt of the letter from Mr. DEUTSCH, dated 12 November 1959, and discussed with an officer  who was familiar with the case. The conclusion again reached is that support of this activity is not a valid endeavor of CIA, and that a discussion of the matter between the DCI and von WITZLEBEN is not necessary.

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4. It is recommended that the DCI sign the attached letter to be sent to Mr. DEUTSCH.



JAMES H. CRITCHFIELD
Chief, Eastern Europe Division

cc: DDCI
DDP

Attachments:

1. Subject letter dated
12 May 1958
2. Memorandum to DCI dated
23 June 1958
3. Letter to Mr. Deutsch
dated 25 June 1958
4. Subject letter dated
12 November 1959
5. Letter to Mr. Deutsch
for signature of DCI

~~SECRET~~

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| CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP | | | | | |
| TO | NAME AND ADDRESS | | INITIALS | DATE | |
| 1 | Mr. Critchfield, Chief, EE | | <i>[Signature]</i> | | |
| 2 | COP-DD/P | | <i>[Signature]</i> | | |
| 3 | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | |
| | ACTION | | DIRECT REPLY | PREPARE REPLY | |
| | APPROVAL | | DISPATCH | RECOMMENDATION | |
| | COMMENT | | FILE | RETURN | |
| | CONCURRENCE | | INFORMATION | SIGNATURE | |
| Remarks: Jim: The DCI is reluctant to put the statements in this letter in writing. He suggests that you or Dick Helms, or whoever knows Harold Deutsch the best, telephone him and explain the substance of this letter orally, then prepare a little note for the Director to send to Deutsch referring to the telephone conversation, expressing his regret that he cannot be of assistance and saying he'll be glad to talk to Deutsch further on the matter any time he happens to be in Washington. | | | | | |
| FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER | | | | | |
| | | | IE. ADDRESS AND PHONE NO. Asst. to the DCI | DATE 12/7/59 | |
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