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DISPATCH NO.: MGFA-3325

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CLASSIFICATION

DATE: 1 December 1949

TO : Chief, Foreign Division M
FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe *cl/107*
SUBJECT: General -
 Specific - Transmittal of Documents
REF : MGFA-3318

1. Attached are copies of documents which were submitted by the subject of reference memorandum in connection with his recent application for an appointment to the Federal Criminal Police.

2. Since the attached documents contain complete personality information and curriculum vitae, it is believed that they will appreciably add to your file on the individual concerned.

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Paul Dickopf

(22b) Hattert-Bahnhof, 24 November 1949
(Municipality of Mueschenbach)
Post Hasenburg/Westervald

Privy Councillor Dr. Hagemann
Federal Ministry of Interior
Bonn - Rheindorfer Strasse

Concerning: Application for Employment in the Federal Criminal Police

Reference: Conversation of 22 November 1949

Attachments: Four.

1. Biographical sketch - dated 23 November 1949
2. Supplement to the biographical sketch of 23 November 1949
3. a) Letter from the American Legation in Bern dated 6 September 1945 (photostat), accompanied by a German translation
b) Statement of the Swiss Federal Ministry of Public Affairs in Bern dated 9 January 1947 (copy)
c) Statement of the Chief Criminal Law Secretary, Georg Wehr, in Karlsruhe on 12 April 1947 (copy)
4. Decision of the Wiesbaden denazification court A.Z. W 7817/194/8908, dated 21 April 1948 (copy)

With reference to the conversation which took place on 22 November 1949 between Privy Councillor Dr. Hagemann and the undersigned, I am allowing myself to present the attached biographical sketch and its supplement, a copy of some political opinions and the decision of the Wiesbaden denazification court.

I hope to be able to place my knowledge at the service of the reconstruction of a German criminal police to be effected on a new basis. My thoughts and proposals for overcoming the crisis which has hampered the work of the West German criminal police are assembled in a memorandum which I shall forward the beginning of December.

I beg you to examine the accompanying attachments and to obtain further references by questioning the individuals named in Attachment 2.

With highest respects,

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Attachment 1 to the Application of Paul Dickopf of 23 November 1949

Biography

I was born 9 June 1910 in Mueschenbach near Hachsburg, Kreis Obervestervald (formerly administrative district Wiesbaden), the son of elementary teacher Joseph Dickopf and his wife Elisabeth, born Bellinger. Both my parents are living and since the pensioning of my father reside at my place of birth. On 26 July 1941 I married Margot, born Stuebinger, born 18 December 1913 in Hannover (daughter of Edward Stuebinger, who has a degree in engineering, and his wife JWilhelmine, born Jaeger). My wife transferred her residence also in July 1943 to Mueschenbach. I belong, as do my wife and my parents, to the Roman Catholic Church.

From 1916 on, I attended elementary school in Wiesbaden-Biebrich am Rhein and also the Realgymnasium (semi-classical secondary school) which I left at Easter 1928 with a valid school leaving certificate. My efforts during the course of the next year to obtain admission to a higher forestry course failed owing to the introduction of the "numerus clausus" (number clause).

In the summer semester of 1928, always with a view to the fulfillment of my contemplated profession, I began biological and at the same time administrative law studies at the University of Frankfurt am Main, which I furthered during the summer of 1929 in Vienna and later in Berlin. Returning to Frankfurt, I worked in the zoological and botanical seminar there in the fall of 1930 and at the same time participated as an auditor in lectures on constitutional and administrative law. After the fruitlessness of further efforts to obtain admission to forestry studies was evident, I finally began orderly legal studies at the University of Frankfurt am Main.

The political events of the year 1933 with their repercussions on university life hindered my plan of finishing my studies as quickly as possible. In the fall of 1934, I avoided the decision of becoming a member of the NSDAP or giving up my prospects for the future by voluntarily enlisting for a year in the Reichswehr. In October 1935 I was discharged from the Amberg Infantry Regiment as a corporal and officer's candidate, after I had declined to take the course for active officers.

For reasons which I explain in greater detail in Attachment 2 - supplement to the biographical sketch - I joined the Student League (NSDStB) in February 1936 and, while continuing my public law and criminal law studies, became a candidate for the German criminal police. In the middle of 1936, I took part in a reserve practice and was promoted to sergeant. That fall I exercised my profession in a several months course which was held for law candidates in the city and county of Wiesbaden. Not until the beginning of 1937 was I called to the Police Institute in Berlin for an aptitude test. In July of that year I was enlisted as candidate for the higher criminal law courses at the criminal police regional headquarters in Frankfurt am Main; at the same time I left the Student League.

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At the end of the practical training period, I participated from 12 December 1938 until 1 July 1939 in the 13th Criminal Commissar Candidates instruction course at the leaders school of the security police (the former Police Institute had been changed to this name in the middle of 1937). In conjunction with the exam, I was promoted to criminal commissar on probation, and as a result of Himmler's assimilation of service ranks, I, together with all other course participants, was named Untersturmfuehrer (Second Lieutenant) in the SD, although I belonged neither to the NSDAP nor to any of its organisations or auxiliary groups.

A few weeks later I was transferred from Frankfurt am Main to Karlsruhe, where I took over the recognition service for Land Baden, and at the outbreak of the war, also acted as substitute chief of personnel administration for the criminal police post. In this capacity, I supervised the evacuation of the equipment of Baden criminal police posts in September 1939.

In the beginning of October of that year I was appointed acting General Kommando V, AK (Abwehr Post) in Stuttgart, where I was active in various departments until the summer of 1942. Although up till then I had been able to avoid the plots of the SD, through the support of my likeminded military superiors, my position became untenable owing to the introduction of an investigation proceedings. I feared the exposure of a series of facts, each of which in itself would have been sufficient to warrant arrest, and at the same time I ran the risk of becoming disloyal to my political principles by obeying an order issued meanwhile concerning activity in neutral countries. Therefore in the fall of 1942, I broke my connection with my police post and hid myself with friends in Brussels, which I had to leave in the summer of 1943 after the opening of a central search (for wanted persons) section of the state secret police.

On 17 July 1943 I crossed the Franco-Swiss border; after an exposition of my situation I was allowed to stay with friends in Lausanne under a cover name. I used the following year to deepen my criminological knowledge and for this purpose attended lectures and courses of the university there. An investigation proceeding launched by the Swiss military authorities through a chain of unfortunate circumstances began in November 1944. At the end of the inquiries conducted by the Swiss Federal Ministry of Public Affairs, the status of a political refugee was accorded me, and at my desire, Worb near Bern was assigned as my place of residence.

In the period which followed, I worked together with the officials of the Swiss federal police on plans for the prevention of disturbances in German territory on the northern Swiss border and prepared the transportation and safe disposition of documentary material from Germany to Switzerland. Shortly thereafter, I entered into official relation with the American Legation in Bern. The resulting growing collaboration served at once to hinder further war crimes and to establish proof as a basis for the punishment

of war criminals and, on the other hand, as preparati... for a replacement organization to combat crime when the Reichs criminal police was dissolved. At the end of the work which directly coincided with the end of the war, I returned to Germany in the middle of November 1945 at the wish of American MG.

The faulty development which was already clearly demonstrated in the American Zone in the winter of 1945/46 caused me to redouble my efforts for the recognition of an established legal position with over-all validity. These efforts were frustrated in the period which followed, less by the behavior of the representatives of the occupation power who were always susceptible to convincing arguments, than by the doctrinaire and actual situation which was by no means justifiable in the attitudes of certain German circles. Therefore under the given circumstances, I declined to take the position offered me in the Public Safety section of the Hessian Ministry of Interior, not least of all because the leading representatives of the occupying power gave no guarantees that the new Germany would be given a stable foundation. In the end of April 1946 I accepted an invitation from the American Legation in Bern to go to Switzerland; I did so the more gladly as I hoped to change the prevailing outlook by describing the situation from a neutral place.

I spent the year 1946 anew in Switzerland and had the satisfaction that during this time a more moderate interpretation began to prevail. My efforts to correct the mistaken opinions concerning the question of a unified Germany and the security problem which urgently needed solution, did not remain without deeper repercussions. Comparative research into the history, methods, and attitude toward the handling of problems of the criminal police in various countries finally convinced even biased observers that the practices used in Germany contradicted all international experience. Very promising tendencies sugured a basic change in the policy of the western Allies, when I finally returned to Germany in January 1947.

Unfortunately the development of the criminal police during the years 1947-1949 brought a series of disillusionments, the source of which would deserve a more detailed investigation. My untiring efforts to create a favorable atmosphere for the centralization of certain criminal police branches, by advising American MG, were exclusively frustrated during this period by German special interests of the most diverse nature representing service departments.

I was exonerated by the decision of the Wiesbaden denazification court of 21 April 1948; the only formal change which figured in the verdict was my nominal membership in the Student League in the period from February 1936 till July 1937.

Since the beginning of 1949 I limited my activity principally to achieving a thorough reorganization of the West German criminal police by evaluating domestic and foreign foundations as shown in documentary material.

A project originating in this period for the construction of a Federal criminal law office was proposed to American MG and with the agreement of the latter was examined by British and French security officials; in addition, the proposal was transmitted through the criminal police office for the British Zone in Hamburg to the Minister of Interior of North Rhine Westphalia. A rough draft of a plan for the organization of a federal criminal law office with brief notations attached, was transmitted to the Federal Minister of Interior recently, while a memorandum on the German criminal police will be submitted the beginning of December. This report on the development, situation and future form of the organ charged with combating crime constitutes a cross-section of the experiences which a great many experts beside me have been able to assemble in the past year. In indulge in the hope that these primarily bitter experiences will not prove in vain and will be the cause of giving the new German criminal police a foundation capable of supporting it and a roof which will protect the entire structure.

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Attachment 3b to the Application of Paul Dickopf dated 23 November 1949
Swiss Federal Ministry of Public Affairs

No. C.2. 13195/St/re

Statement

The undersigned office confirms herewith that Mr. Paul Dickopf, a German citizen, born 9 June 1910, entered Switzerland on 17 August 1943, was recognised here as a political refugee and from that time on was placed under our office. His conduct gave no cause for reproach.

During his residence in Switzerland he was an active opponent of national socialism and in no way endorsed national socialist ideology.

Bern, 9 January 1947

Swiss Federal Ministry of Public Affairs

Police Service

Chief

(signed) Balsiger

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Attachment 3c to the Application of Paul Dickopf, dated 23 November 1949

Georg Wehr

Karlsruhe, 12 April, 1947

Chief Criminal Law Secretary

Uhlandstrasse 39

Statement

Criminal commissar Paul Dickopf, born 9 June 1910, was transferred from Frankfurt am Main to Karlsruhe on 25 August 1939 where he was in charge of the recognition service of the criminal police post. At the outbreak of the war he took over in addition the personnel administration of the same province. On 4 October 1939 he was made Acting General Kommando V, AK in Stuttgart, by military order and actually was appointed in return for Criminal Commissar Hagt who had originally been considered for this position but then had been employed elsewhere. After the order Dickopf's salary continued to be paid by the police finance office at Karlsruhe because he remained subordinate to them for financial purposes.

In the end of May or the beginning of June 1943, a series of warrants of arrest were sworn against Dickopf by the RSHA (Amts I and IV). Among other things, Dickopf was proclaimed in the German search (wanted persons) book as a secret member of the Communist Party; this statement was retracted in the fall of 1944 and, in fact, this was done at the time that the Karlsruhe criminal police station had been informed that Dickopf was residing in Switzerland. The disappearance of Dickopf produced considerable unrest in the central police posts of the security police and the SD; this can be seen alone by the fact that the most disparate posts were charged with measures against "missing persons." The investigation was also extended to Dickopf's wife who resided in Karlsruhe, Weinbrennerstrasse 12; she, therefore, decided in the late summer of 1943 to leave Karlsruhe and take up her residence with her parents-in-law in Bahnhof-Hattert (Westerwald).

The salary of refugee Commissar Dickopf continued to be paid to his wife at her request; however, from 31 January 1944 on, no further payments were made since the RSHA finally established its interpretation that Dickopf should be handled as a deserter.

The officials of the criminal police station in Karlsruhe who had known Dickopf were not at all surprised by his disappearing without leaving any traces, since they had known his political inclinations. During his activity in Karlsruhe, Dickopf made efforts to study the current service organization and thereby avoid intended changes of position. He particularly refused to introduce Prussian methods and to further in any way the unified political formation desired by the RSHA and the chief of the post. In this connection it may be mentioned that even after Dickopf took over command,

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Attachment 3c - page two

he frequently spoke up sharply against the plan of uniforming the criminal police and against their subordination to the SD. His relations with the posts of the SD and the secret state police were, so far as I know, very one-sided for they consisted ultimately in the fact that these organizations made extraordinary efforts to get Dickopf again in their power.

In 1943 I myself was charged with watching and examining Dickopf's wife; thereby and through my own service position as personnel specialist I gained a good insight into the investigation which was progressing. Beside me, other officials still in the service are in a position to confirm my statements, although they cannot contribute anything basically new.

I was not a party member and was always an opponent of national socialism. After the capitulation, I was the first official of the new Karlsruhe criminal police and was confirmed in my position not only by French MG, but also later by the U.S. As formerly, I also work at present in the section in charge of personnel matters.

(signed) Georg Wehr

Chief Criminal Law Secretary

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Attachment 4 to the Application of Paul Dickopf dated 23 November 1949

Execution (of an order)

The denazification court at Wiesbaden

Wiesbaden 21 April 1948

Document Designation: W 7817/194/2908

Re.

On the basis of the law for exemption from national socialism and militarism of 5 March 1946, the Wiesbaden denazification court No. 194, consisting of:

1. Dr. Reich as Presiding Judge
2. Mr. Betz as Assessors
Mr. Oberst
3. as Plaintiff
4. as Recorder

against Paul Dickopf, criminal commissar, born 9 June 1910 in Maeschenbach; residing Wiesbaden-Beibrich, Rheingaustrasse 33, releases the following verdict in written proceedings;

The Accused is: Group 5, absolved.

The value of the matter in dispute: RM 4.200.

The state treasury will bear the costs of the proceeding.

(signed) Oberst, Betz, Dr. Reich

Argument

The accused was born on 9 June 1910. He is criminal police commissar by profession. He first took up the profession of police official after having studied law for several years. During his student years he was from 1936 to 1937 an ordinary member of the National Socialist Student League. On 1 June 1937 he entered the criminal police and was criminal police commissar from 24 June 1939 till 4 October 1939. Finally he became acting General Kommando Stuttgart (Abswehr post). Without his cooperation he was named Untersturmfuehrer (2nd Lieutenant) in the SD on 24 June 1939 without, however, ever having been active in the SD. It followed only because of an inner service decision on rank assimilation.

It is established that the accused comes from a good Catholic family, that he and his whole family rejected national socialism. He only entered the Student League in order to encounter no difficulties in carrying out his studies. Since the accused increasingly recognized that national socialism was a great misfortune for the German people and that he did not wish to identify his activity with its goals, he fled to Switzerland in July 1943 after having

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worked with all his powers until then against national socialism. During his stay in Switzerland he immediately placed himself at the disposition of the circles working against national socialism. The Foreign Service of the U.S. in Switzerland vouched for the accused (through the American diplomat Paul Blum) as a political refugee who had worked with them unreservedly. The accused's capacity for action, his dependability of character, and his service in the fight against national socialism were stressed by the American diplomat. The Swiss Federal Ministry of Public Affairs through the chief of the police service, Balsiger, also confirmed that the accused was a recognised refugee and that he was considered in Switzerland as an active opponent of national socialism, who by no means subscribed to national socialist outlooks. These circumstances were proved by the admission of the accused (to Switzerland); particularly, however, they are proved by the statement of the U.S. diplomat in Switzerland, Paul Blum, made on 6 September 1945, and the statement of the chief of the Swiss police service on page 9 of the proceedings.

In view of this state of affairs, there could be no doubt that the accused should be considered as absolved according to Article 13 of the "Freeing Law." Concerning his activity as criminal police commissar, there is nothing detrimental to be said. His being named Untersturmfuehrer (2nd Lieutenant) in the SD took place through no desire of his, owing to rank assimilation. The accused was not active in the SD so this cannot be charged against him. There remains only the short membership in a national socialist organisation - the Student League. Here the accused was only an ordinary member. He was always an opponent of national socialism. When he observed that he could not oppose national socialism in Germany, he fled to Switzerland in order to conduct the fight against national socialism there. That he conducted this fight as an active opposition according to the measure of his strength, is proved beyond contradiction by the statement of the American diplomat Paul Blum and the chief of the Swiss police service, Balsiger.

The accused has sustained damages through his opposition in the homeland and in Switzerland. In Switzerland itself he was exposed to the danger of being brought to account by the secret service of the SD. There can be no doubt of this in the minds of those familiar with legal matters. Above all, however, it must be stressed as a particularly sensible injury, that he had to abandon his fatherland.

The value of the matter in dispute is established as 4.200 RM.

The costs of the proceedings are to be borne by the State treasury.

(signed) Dr. Reich

(LS)

Hessian Ministry of State
Minister for Political Liberation
Wiesbaden Denazification Court

Done at Wiesbaden,
10 May 1948
Signed by the Registrar