

~~SECRET~~

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
CHINA THEATER
X-2 BRANCH
REPORT

39P 38R
DOCUMENT MICROFILM SERVICE
1153
Report No: 1153
Local File No: 1153
Made By: JH
Date: 1/27/46
EH-827

Office of Origin: SHANGHAI	Date: 7 January 1946	Period Covered: 12-27 September 1945	Status: CLOSED
Report Made At: SHANGHAI	Subject: ABWEHR ACTIVITIES IN CANTON		
Classification: Espionage			
References: Reported dated Shanghai 2 November 1945 entitled ABWEHR ACTIVITIES IN CHINA, EHRHARDT BUREAU			

Source: SI (FARRELL AND GRAY - Investigation in Canton).

DETAILS:

SYNOPSIS:

Set forth in this report are the following, which comprise a report by FARRELL and GRAY made at Canton on 27 September 1945, regarding their investigation of the HEISE OFFICE (EHRHARDT BUREAU in that area):

- REPORT ON OFFICE HEISE, CANTON(Pages 1-3 incl.)
- List of ATTACHMENTS TO REPORT ON OFFICE HEISE ... (Pages 4 & 5)
- ATTACHMENTS 1a), b), c); 2a), b), c); 3a), b); 4a), b), c); and 5a), b), c), d) and e).....(Pages 6-37 incl.)

EX-1153
7 Jan '46

1-241-16

Evaluation by source: A-1 Distribution: 2 Washington, 1 HQ & HQ Det., 4 Shanghai (1-0-2).	Approved By: Officer in Charge
---	---------------------------------------

~~SECRET~~

25

~~SECRET~~

VIII.

GESTAPO AGENTS IN CHINA

A. COLONEL JOSEPH MEISINGER

WIEDEMANN arrived in Japan the latter part of November, 1941. At that time, Colonel of The Police Joseph MEISINGER was Police Attache to the German Embassy in Todyo. Himmler had as his trustees, one Police Attache from every German Embassy, and MEISINGER was reportedly one of the first men sent out for this kind of work.

WIEDEMANN wasn't sure of MEISINGER's exact duties at the Embassy, but he thinks he was mainly interested in Counter-Espionage work, and to watch the behavior of all Germans in the area. He also communicated with the Japanese Police regarding national police matters.

knew meisinger previously and
WIEDEMANN made use of MEISINGER in an official capacity during this period. There were suspicious in higher headquarters that WIEDEMANN's friend, Princess STEPHANIE HOHENLOE was of Jewish ancestry. During the Party Rally in Nurnberg in 1938, MEISINGER told WIEDEMANN the Princess had no Jewish blood. Subject stated that he learned to like MEISINGER in Berlin but was hesitant to contact him often.

MEISINGER went to Warsaw in 1939. At that time he was the only Chief of Police in the city. In 1941 he was sent to Tokyo.

MEISINGER told WIEDEMANN he was sent to East Asia because "HIMMLER said he had had such a hard time in Warsaw; he had to do such beastly things, he should get a rest in Tokyo".

While in Japan, MEISINGER worked with the Japanese, and continued to work with them after the fall of Germany. His office was in the Embassy in Tokyo, and he did some travelling in China as he is known to have been in Shanghai several time. MEISINGER's wife, HERTA ELIZABETH KATENINA PACKER, is presently working in a commercial hospital in Shanghai as a nurse.

WIEDEMANN saw MEISINGER and his wife the last time at their home in Shanghai in December 1941. His wife can be located through the Shanghai German Consulate. Mrs. MEISINGER, had been MEISINGER's secretary in Warsaw and had considerable knowledge of his activities. The two were married at the suggestion of HIMMLER, one child resulting from this marriage who is still in Germany. The two are now divorced.

MEISINGER's chief associates in his work were Major HUBER in Shanghai, and CHARLES SCHMIDT in Peking. He was also always in constant connection with the Japanese Gendarmerie. MEISINGER was suspected of giving the names of suspected Germans to the Japanese Gendarmerie, these people being subsequently arrested. Several people were arrested through this liaison.

WIEDEMANN gave little information regarding MEISINGER'S activities in China, He believed MEISINGER had been in Peking and Shanghai contacting his subordinates, CHARLES SCHMIDT in Peking, and Major HUBER in Shanghai. Both of these men took orders directly from MEISINGER.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET.~~

C. UNDERGROUND ACTIVITY THOSE LIKELY TO REMAIN ACTIVE

Though WEIDEMANN claimed to have no information as to any "WEREWOLF" organization in China, he mentioned the following men as fanatics and most likely to carry on Party activity underground: (SIEGFRIED LAHRMANN, Shanghai; STRINZ, Tsingtao; PETER WEINSS, Tientsin; CHARLES SCHMIDT, Peking; Major HUBER, Shanghai; OHLWEIN, Tsingtao; and ALFRED LUCKENHAU, Peking.) All official Party activity stopped in China upon the defeat of Germany.

D. DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF OUTSTANDING MEN LINKED WITH THE PARTY IN CHINA

SIEGFRIED LAHRMANN, Party head. He is 40 to 45 years old, 5' 10" in height, 180 to 190 pounds, stout-square build, blond and slightly bald, grey to gray-blue eyes, ruddy complexion, and large belly. He looks a bit brutal. As a representative for German Railways, he operated from his office in Shanghai.

PETER WEINSS, most fanatical Nazi in Tientsin and possibly China, 45 to 48 years old, 1 meter 75 in height, slender build, pale face, bald.

LULBRECHT, Hitler Youth Head in Tientsin, about 32 years old, 5' 10" in height, dark-black hair, dark eyes, dark complexion, profile noted for the sharp angle between the forehead and the nose. He is sharp looking, dresses well and is employed at "DEFAG". He lives on Petring Lane (or Park) in Tientsin.

COLONEL JOSEPH WEISINGER, Colonel of the Police, one of REYDRICH's three department chiefs, started with the Party in Germany in '33 or '34, was chief of the Police in Warsaw in '39, came East in '41, operated from Japan. His wife is living in Shanghai.

HUBER, Major of Police in Shanghai and WEISINGER's subordinate in China SS standard leader, connected with the embassy in Shanghai. He is officially connected with and reports directly to the Gestapo in Berlin.

CHARLES SCHMIDT, Peking subordinate to WEISINGER, 45 years old, 5' 11" in height, broad shouldered, brown blond hair, stout, crude, very strong, and drinks too much at times. He is a "self-styled" police attache to the Peking embassy.

FRANK MARKS, Chancellor of the Consulate in Tientsin. The following statement was made about this man, "Though all officials are Party members, MARKS is the only one who was really a convinced Nazi."

LUDWIG RICHART, head of the Abwehr in China. He took over military intelligence activity from SIEPKIN, former head of the organization. His headquarters are in Shanghai. He is about 5' 10" in height, stout, beely, blond or brown hair. He is a member of the General Staff. Has been noted as a heavy drinker at times.

~~SECRET.~~

DETAILS:

REPORT ON OFFICE WEISE, CANTON

Absolute proof is contained herein of the complete collaboration of certain Germans with the Japanese in their prosecution of the war against China and the United States after the formal surrender of Germany.

The German agency immediately concerned with these hostile acts in China, which is herein exposed, is known as the AEWERH, also as the KRIEGSORGANISATION, also as BUREAU EBERHARDT, locally in South China known as OFFICE WEISE.

OFFICE WEISE had its headquarters in the German Consulate Building in Canton until the German surrender. For purposes of ostensibly divorcing itself from the German Consulate, it then moved to premises at 54 Chu Kwong Rd., Canton.

OFFICE WEISE was headed by one ERICH WEISE, *CIT. GERMANY* alias *Dr. WEISE*, who was chief of an intelligence network in South China which had direct radio contact with Berlin and Shanghai. *in WUEHRDEUT*

The other German personnel on the staff of OFFICE WEISE were the following:

CIT. GERMANY
OSWALD WERBICHT, NSDAP member, who served as radio operator and technician, who had worked (Eberhard Eberhart) in South China
HANS HEINRICH KIMMANN, a Hitler indoctrinated member of the Nazi Youth Organization, NSDAP member, who served as radio operator and technician
Office Bureau
KIMMANN came to China in 1942 on a Nazi blockade runner. He formerly served as radio man on a pocket battleship.

cit. Germany
cit. Bureau
OTTO PRESSE, outspoken anti-Nazi, who served as cipher-man and bookkeeper but who refused to obey the orders of the Shanghai German Embassy and the Canton German Consulate to continue these hostile operations after the German surrender. It was only under stern pressure by the Canton German Consulate and the demands of the local Gestapo agent (vice-Consul HERBERT GILTSCH) that Mr. PRESSE initially accepted employment with this office.

Any consideration of the persons implicated in this conspiracy must include the following:

CIT. GERMANY
Dr. JOHANNES OTTO, Nazi leader in South China, without whose cognizance and permission no such activity could have existed.

And the members of the German Consulate, Canton, who received and carried out the conspiring orders, signed by "STOLLER" of the German Embassy, Shanghai. These members are:

- CIT. GERMANY*
(Dr.) FRANZ SIEBERT, NSDAP member and Consul General.
- CIT. GERMANY*
HERBERT GILTSCH, Gestapo agent, NSDAP member, Hitler Youth Leader, German Vice-Consul, courier for EBERHARDT.
- CIT. GERMANY*
HERT WUNDERLICH, NSDAP member, Assistant Secretary German Consulate.

ACTIVITIES IN CANTON

To think of HEISE as a criminal without including DR. OTTO, MR. GLITSCH, and Dr. SIEBERT on terms of equal guilt with him, would be like blaming solely a corporation's treasurer for a discrepancy in the funds caused by an embezzlement, the proceeds of which were shared by the chairman of the board, the president and the treasurer.

The background of the activities of BUREAU EHRHARDT begins with the arrival of L. EISENTRAEGER, alias EHRHARDT, who left Berlin for Shanghai just before the declaration of war between Germany and Russia in 1941, and was almost captured by the Russians en route.

In November, 1942, EISENTRAEGER was hand-picked for his experience in espionage for the EHRHARDT job by Gestapo leader (Colonel) JOSEPH GEISLER, known as the "BUTCHER OF BARSAN", who was then in Shanghai.

EISENTRAEGER went to Harbin in August, 1943, to persuade the Japanese authorities there to allow him to employ agents, whom he already had operating within the Kwangtung area. Permission was denied, but EISENTRAEGER's agents continued to operate in spite of this under the usual cover of the "German business men".

The BUREAU EHRHARDT and other German intelligence agencies in China were financed as follows: Remittance money to the Far East was made in the so-called "Frei Reichsmarks", and was arranged in China by the Deutsche-Asiatische Bank, which had branches in Shanghai, Canton, Hankow, Paiping, Tientsin, Tsingtao, Berlin and Tokyo. In China, most payments were made in CBS or FRB banknotes. These currencies were acquired in exchange for Japanese Yen from Tokyo out of tremendous Yen credit balances held by the German Government in Tokyo. There were also "special funds" accounts in big German business firms. These accounts were in the form of cash or other assets set aside and earmarked, which could easily be converted into cash. BUREAU EHRHARDT in Shanghai had such drawing accounts in Diefag and Bayer.

HEISE first came to China in 1929 and served as a military adviser, and in various other capacities, including a business association with Colonel OKADA, head of the MATSU MIKAN, with whom HEISE subsequently worked closely in intelligence in Canton. HEISE's wife divorced him for "continuous and continual homosexuality" in December, 1935, and she married Major Bodo Freiherr von STIL, with whom she now resides in Shanghai. In spite of this, the HEISES at one time produced a son and a daughter. The son is now in Tokyo; the daughter lives with her mother. For further details as to HEISE's biography refer to attachment No. 4B.

OFFICE HEISE initiated operations in Canton on 22 December 1943, but it was not until September, 1944, that this office reached full scale operations.

Apparently, OFFICE HEISE functioned as a radio station set up to handle messages of greeting and inquiry between Germans here and in Europe. Such messages were handled through the German Consulate. However, this was a highly inadequate camouflage.

Its secret military function was an intelligence exchange agency with the Japanese, the principal function of which was to monitor all Chinese and American air-ground communications and chart "hump" traffic and plot the

~~SECRET~~

he married in ~~WIEDEMANN~~ home in Tientsin. From talks with him at that time, he thought that ZINSSER had not been implicated any illegal activities with either ~~KHRHARDT~~ or ~~HUBER~~. He observed, however, that he has always been a good Party man.

~~WIEDEMANN~~ dismissed all the above contacts as being of no significance since the contacts were made only because he was a German consul. It was pointed out to him that a number of agents had confided in him to nature of their activities. This he explained was due to the fact that the agents were of low caliber and talked too much.

B. Connection With the Gestapo. *acquainted with FRITZ WIEDEMANN*

Although he admitted being acquainted with (Col.) ~~JOSEPH MEISINGER~~, Gestapo Chief for the Far East, now in custody in Tokyo, ~~Major HUBER~~, China Chief, Charles SCHMIDT, Police attache in Peking and one SCHULTZE, representative in Harbin, he denies having ever furnished information concerning Anti-Germans or on other matters to the Gestapo.

Report contains info given by [redacted] re his knowledge of Subj's act.
He has known ~~MEISINGER~~ for a number of years having first met him in Berlin while ~~WIEDEMANN~~ was adjutant to Hitler and ~~MEISINGER~~ was one of the department heads of the Gestapo. He met ~~MEISINGER~~ again in Tokyo while enroute to China and went out to dinner with him. He commented that ~~MEISINGER~~ had always been quite friendly with him and he attributed his not being reported to Berlin after making his "Anti-Nazi" speeches to this reason. He stated that he thought ~~MEISINGER~~ liked him. He later wrote him a letter recommending that he assist the Jew, ~~KNDERMANN~~, whose background has been previously set forth in this report. *See also p 38*

He apparently knew both ~~HUBER~~ and ~~SCHMIDT~~ quite well, since he had gone to them on several cases and discussed matters with them. ~~SCHMIDT~~ on several occasions confided in him the nature of information contained in his files on various individuals.

On one occasion, ~~WIEDEMANN~~ discussed Gestapo methods with ~~HUBER~~, particularly as to reporting on Germans in China and ~~HUBER~~ had indicated that he did not agree with ~~MEISINGER~~ on this and preferred to having nothing to do with this kind of work but preferred to direct espionage and counter espionage in a military sense. This talk took place in ~~WIEDEMANN~~'s office in Tientsin in 1942 while ~~HUBER~~ was on tour of North China. He also told him at that time that his organization supplemented the Abwehr and that he also reported military intelligence to Berlin. He had known ~~SCHULTZE~~ when he was in Tientsin for a short time during the Spring of 1945. It was through an unsealed letter to ~~HUBER~~ handed to him for delivery through the diplomatic pouch that he learned the identity of ~~ELME~~, employee of the ~~MELCHERS~~ firm in Tientsin, who was also working for the Gestapo, supposedly ~~SCHMIDT~~.

He learned through ~~HUBER~~ and Consul General ~~STOELLER~~, his predecessor in Tientsin who is now the head of the German Embassy Branch office in Shanghai, that ~~HUBER~~ had his own code but sent his messages through the Embassy in Shanghai. He supposedly submitted all of his messages in clear text for approval of ~~STOELLER~~, but obviously could get around such a procedure.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

In Tientsin there were the usual face slapping incidents and WIEDEMANN ONCE HEARD THAT THE JAP Gendermerie was torturing Chinese Prisoners badly.

He also recalled some stories about MEISINGER but could not vouch for their veracity. MEISINGER worked closely with the Jap Gendermerie and caused the arrest of a number of Germans. He remembered two cases that might be of interest. One was the case of a Captain of a German Merchant Marine. MEISINGER, himself, reportedly shot this man during an alcoholic brawl in Tokyo.

The other case concerned a Mr. ENGEL in Tokyo, who was a member of a German oil firm and was buying wall oil for the German government. He was a strong anti-Nazi and reportedly made some remarks about the regime. MEISINGER only learning this had the Japs arrest him. He remained in jail several weeks, was released and upon being told he was to be arrested again committed suicide rather than go through the torture again.

~~SECRET.~~