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230 CBGFG

14 May 1951

SUBJECT: DTLINEN Report on Kidnapping Operations

TO : Chief, PEMIGHT

1. Attached is a translation by [ ] of a report from DTLINEN on kidnapping operations organized and executed by HBREBEL authorities which we think you might find of interest.

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MEMORANDUM:

According to latest official reports, 97 WSCORNY residents have disappeared during the first few months of 1951, apparently the victims of kidnapping operations organized and executed by HBREBEL authorities. Various WSCORNY organizations and presumably also WSCORNY police have been busily engaged in trying to identify any individuals who in one way or another still are or were connected with these particular types of operations.

Some time ago, DTLINEN was contacted by an anonymous caller who claimed to have in his possession certain information in the form of documents (photostatic copies of same were given to DTRULER) which would reveal a number of persons directly responsible and guilty of kidnappings. Inasmuch as this informant asked payment for any submitted information, DTLINEN requested as proof one of the mentioned documents in order to be able to check same for accuracy and reliability. The furnished document and other additional material made available at a later date brought to light the following facts:

Basic evidence supplied: An agreement between Heinz Manig, a German national now living at 5 Boyanallee, WSCORNY and the HBREBEL Ministry of the Interior. Therein Manig agrees to supply informational matter as requested. Furthermore it states that for report purposes and the signing of receipts for services rendered, Manig would use the cover name of "Belgier". This agreement signed by Manig was dated 15.8.50.

Facts ascertained through DTLINEN investigation: Manig, a former official of the HBREBEL railway police moved to WSCORNY from BGQUEEN on the 12.6.50. At that time he applied for status as a political refugee and was granted same. Signatures on both, the agreement and application blank for WSCORNY residence were compared and found to be identical.

At a subsequent meeting this same informant turned over additional proof, again a series of documents, to a DTLINEN official. Due to the fact that Manig's agreement did not offer enough evidence for immediate criminal prosecution, more incriminating material was needed. The following reports were either signed by Manig with his real name or under the cover name of "Belgier".

Document number two: A detailed report signed by Manig tells of the kidnapping on the 22.12.49 of a German national by the name of K<sup>u</sup>h<sup>m</sup>e. According to the report, K<sup>u</sup>h<sup>m</sup>e had been shadowed for quite a while by one of Manig's agents, a man by the name of K<sup>u</sup>h<sup>f</sup>eld. This agent either heard or was informed that K<sup>u</sup>h<sup>m</sup>e planned to take a bus trip to Western Germany. K<sup>u</sup>h<sup>f</sup>eld was therefore given instructions to board the same bus on which K<sup>u</sup>h<sup>m</sup>e also was a passenger. Furthermore, it was arranged that K<sup>u</sup>h<sup>f</sup>eld would have the driver stop just a few miles inside HBREBEL territory, claiming to be carsick. This was done, K<sup>u</sup>h<sup>f</sup>eld got off the bus and at that moment the car which had been waiting by the roadside by prior

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arrangement, discharged several HBREBEL police officials who proceeded to check the identification papers of the individual passengers. Kühme's papers were found "not to be in order" and he was ordered from the bus. The HBREBEL officials explained to the other passengers that this man would be turned over to WSCORNY police. The report concludes with the statement that the other bus passengers never realized what was happening and assumed this to be just another routine check.

Facts ascertained through DTLINEN investigation: Kühme was reported as missing on the 2.1.50 by Otilie Jaeger, Sven-Hedin Str. 53a, Berlin-Zehlendorf. She told police officials that he had not arrived at his destination and she feared that he was abducted by the Russians. It should be mentioned that the HBREBEL official who took Kühme off the bus, was a man by the name of Bochinski, who now resides as a political refugee in WSCORNY (Thorwaldenstr. 21, Berlin-Neukölln). Manig then still lived in BGQUEEN and was working as chief of the political section, HBREBEL police headquarters.

At a later date, DTLINEN was informed that Kühme had been working for the Americans and that on the day of his arrest several of his friend in BGQUEEN and HBREBEL were also taken into custody.

Document Number 3: For this operation Manig secured the services of another agent by the name of Kroll. Manig reports that Kroll, not having enough money to enlarge his tailorship, was willing after being told of the financial arrangements (he was to be paid 3,000 DM). This time a man by the name of Sorrikowa was to be kidnapped. The plan was to invite Sorrikowa to Kroll's apartment on the 18.1.51; also present would be another man called Dreger. Sorrikowa (Boris, Fedorowitsch born in the Soviet Union) would be offered a cup of coffee containing knock-out drops. Dreger on the pretext of getting cigarettes would leave, returning later when Sorrikowa was unconscious. At 19:00 the victim would then be wrapped into a blanket, carried to a waiting delivery truck and transported into BGQUEEN.

DTLINEN was unable to ascertain the whereabouts of Sorrikowa, also whether or not he ever resided in WSCORNY. However, Kroll was found to be living in WSCORNY (Bleibtreustr. 40, Berlin-Charlottenburg). Kroll as mentioned in Manig's report is registered as a tailor. Dreger could not be located. With this available evidence, DTLINEN contacted WSCORNY police and after discussing various phases of their investigation, turned over photostatic copies of afore-mentioned documents. The inspector of the WSCORNY police investigation office thereupon agreed to have these individuals watched and arrested at an opportune moment.

In order to strengthen their case against the above named individuals, two more documents were obtained.

Document Number 4: This operation again involved the agent Kuhfeld. Fritz Suhr (Hammlerstr. 24, Berlin-Wedding), an unemployed railway employee was the selected victim. Kuhfeld, after trailing Suhr for some time, reported that Suhr regularly every Thursday called at the local labor

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office, using a certain subway line to get to his destination. It was arranged to kidnap Suhr in the subway station facing BGQUEEN. Kuhfeld was to follow Suhr into the station, identify him to three waiting HBREBEL police officers who in turn would take Suhr to another part of the station and then into BGQUEEN. This operation was to take place on the 29.6.50.

DTLINEN learned that Suhr was reported missing by his wife on the 1.7.50. The kidnapping actually took place on the 30.6.50. A newspaper account under that date line reports that several persons waiting at this subway station observed a man being dragged into BGQUEEN. Suhr's wife now has information that her husband is confined in the HBREBEL jail at Bautzen. It has also been established that Suhr was working for the French.

Document Number 5: An agent identified as Dreger (whether he is the same person active in the Sorrikowa case, is not known) was given the job of trailing a WSCORNY doctor (Dr. Alexander von Lipka). Dreger's job was to find out if von Lipka had any contact with allied offices. This investigation took place during November 1950.

Von Lipka actually received a telephone call on the 22.10.50 asking him to come to BGQUEEN. There he found himself taken into custody and questioned. The telephone call was purely for the purpose of luring him into BGQUEEN; however, he was later released with the explanation that he was the victim of a denunciation. Still he was being watched a month later for some unknown reason.

DTLINEN first learned about these kidnappings during the latter part of March 1951. Their investigation was completed during the first of the week of April 1, 1951. A report was prepared for WSCORNY police officials who then arrested the individuals mentioned in the documents, and available for questioning in WSCORNY. Although these persons were now in jail, DTLINEN accidentally heard that none of their apartments had been searched. After this oversight was pointed out to police officials, action was finally taken, but again only 24 hours later.

The next day police officials during a conversation with DTLINEN officials complained of the lack of "real" evidence and intimated that the documents in question might be "forged". This apparently closed the case as far as they were concerned; the HBREBEL agents, never once interrogated by the district attorney's office or taken before a magistrate's court, were released. DTLINEN thereupon addressed a sharp memorandum to the responsible police official whose only reply was that neither DTLINEN nor any other agency had the right to judge cases of this type; only the district attorney's office was authorized to take any action. Up to this date no records on this case have been forwarded to the district attorney's office. A remark by one of the police officials that "if these men had been brought before an examining magistrate, they might have been held for as long as three months and then would have been unable to draw their regular relief checks" shows a rather peculiar attitude. A close scrutiny of the personnel charged with these investigations might be advisable inasmuch as according to a recent newspaper report a member of the WSCORNY criminal police was found to have close connections with HBREBEL police. No information has been released so far by WSCORNY police as to charges against the arrested police officer, however, HICALIA claims to know that he is implicated in connection with various kidnapping incidents.