

DBF 41961

~~SECRET~~ SECRET

Ref: FBI Report File No. 100-27922, 25 March, 1948 date sent to CIA

1/18
Subject: Herbert ENGELSING

There appear to be two statements among the many made by ENGELSING which are open to a good deal of doubt. It may be noted that the major portion of what ENGELSING states is based, according to his own testimony, on hearsay; very seldom does he make a positive statement based on his own knowledge. Moreover, judging from what he does state, it may be conjectured that he could provide more information than he has provided on the SCHULZE-BOYSEN group if he were willing.

The first of the above-mentioned two statements is concerned with the information gathering side of SCHULZE-BOYSEN's activities and ENGELSING's contribution to ~~it~~. On page two of reference report, paragraph three, ENGELSING reports that SCHULZE-BOYSEN explained one of the two main duties of his group as being that of "gathering information concerning political conditions within Germany itself, showing the most vulnerable spots of the Nazi Party whereby the Nazi Party could best be attacked and discredited among the German populace." As to ENGELSING's share in this work, on page three, paragraph one, ENGELSING quotes SCHULZE-BOYSEN as follows: "He specifically requested two types of information, the first being any evidence on signs of Germany's internal collapse and the second being the names of individuals or organizations which were Anti-Nazi and which would be capable of governing Germany after the defeat of the Nazi Party.

In conflict with the above testimony, however, is a statement of ENGELSING's (contained in MSB-1040) made during the first interview with him on the 4th of August, '47. At that time he stated ~~that~~ the following which we quote: "The SCHULZE-BOYSEN group started as a discussion group - - - with no program and little talent for action. ENGELSING himself was largely responsible for bringing the group into contact with persons having

REGISTRY COPY SECRET

~~SECRET~~

200-6-1-54-25

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2D
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

FOR COORDINATION WITH FBI

DBF 41961

access to information and for clarifying SCHULZE-BOYSEN's line of action. SCHULZE-BOYSEN could get information only from the Luftwaffe in whose offices he was employed. ENGELSING, through his acquaintance with favorite accesses of top Nazis, was able to provide SCHULZE-BOYSEN with situation reports on future political or military actions to be taken by the German government." It may be noted that several sources have indicated that ENGELSING was active in the group up to the time of SCHULZE-BOYSEN's arrest in the fall of 1942.

The second doubtful statement of ENGELSING's concerns a supposed break between himself and SCHULZE-BOYSEN; he reported this break in the following terms, ~~xxx~~ quoted from page 6, paragraph 2 of reference report: "ENGELSING said that he broke with SCHULZE-BOYSEN when SCHULZE-BOYSEN turned more to the extreme Left groups and that after the break, ENGELSING heard only of SCHULZE-BOYSEN's activities indirectly." As noted however in the paragraph directly above, our only information in this regard is that ENGELSING not only was active in the group up to SCHULZE-BOYSEN's arrest but also actively aided survivors of the group, obtained the release of several at least from the police and even attempted to arrange defense for SCHULZE-BOYSEN. There can be little doubt that the statement of ~~l.~~ ~~quoted~~ above is not a statement of the actual facts.