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DST 6961

FOREIGN SERVICE DEPARTMENT
FROM: HICOG FRANKFURT
TO: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REF: [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF HERBERT ENGELSING

RETAIN OR DESTROY

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The following information concerning subject was provided by the Federal Agency for the Protection of the Constitution in connection with a report on organization Rote Kapelle:

"Attorney Dr. Herbert Engelsing is in contact with Feuerzange (Fire Tongue). Born September 2, 1904, Overath, Kreis Mülheim, Ruhr. Residence: Constance, 8 Asohenweg, telephone 697. Left the court system in 1933 because of his Jewish wife. During the war, active as a journalist in connection with the film industry, Berlin. Has lived in Constance since 1945 where he took up connections with the communist-infiltrated French military government, where he had an excellent entree. Thus he was one of the few Germans who, during the early days of French occupation, constantly received permits to enter Switzerland, not only for himself but for other persons who were his proteges in this respect. For a long time he received blank signed permits. In Günther WEISSENBORN's book Die Illegalen (The Illegal Ones), Engelsing is portrayed as an assistant of Feuerzange. Engelsing is a close collaborator of Weissenborn. After 1945 Weissenborn provided Engelsing with a testimonial to document the latter's anti-fascist attitude. In this document Weissenborn describes Engelsing as a member and promoter of Feuerzange.

"Engelsing maintains a very good law practice in criminal and civil law in Constance. He gives preference to the defense of former NSDAP members and Communists who are in trouble. In December 1948 Engelsing represented the interests of the Communist editor GOSUEL, who had been removed from the daily, Südkurier.

"Dr. Engelsing and his wife travelled to the United States to visit Mrs. Engelsing's parents, 1948. Mrs. Engelsing's father is said to be a professor in Berkeley, California. Upon his return to Germany from the U.S. Engelsing "happened to meet" Günther Weissenborn in Bremen, who had just returned from Moscow. Engelsing has made a number of trips to the U.S. since then.

"The former Air Attache at the German Legation in Sofia, General SCHÖNEBECK, is in contact with Engelsing. Schönebeck is the brother-in-law of SCHULZE-BOYSEN and is living in Styria, Austria."

Wow

(HICOG comment: Schulze-Boysen may be Hartmut S-5, 21 Blumenthalstr., Heidelberg, a candidate in training at the Speyer Foreign Service School as of October 1950).

According to CTS records... and arrived in Switzerland with an... the Department (interim)
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WJM/sg

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Office of German Consular Affairs) in January (f) 1950. He then attempted to enter Germany in June 1950 but was placed on the Travel Restriction List at the request of the British Legation in Bern. The OTE does not have the facts on record which would clarify the British objections. However Engelsing did receive an entry permit for Germany in October or November 1950. In view of this conflicting information and the possibility that Engelsing may be an agent, it is requested that the Department examine the records to determine the circumstances of Engelsing's alleged travel documentation and any other data that would throw light on the case. Please forward a copy of the findings to HICCG.

Any further information obtained here on the case will be submitted to the Department immediately.

B.R. Shute
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Director
Office of Intelligence

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