

Att to EGMA 56414, 15 Sept 61

[] = (WICHODIL)

[] = (FRITZ)

The discussion turned next to WICHODIL and then to FRITZ. I stated that this case was too doubtful to be of value in my estimation and that WICHODIL was an unfortunate choice for an agent either "in positive inserts" or as a double agent. FRITZ then took some issue with me and stated that he had personally listened to a meeting at which BANANE had whipped off answers to questions as fast as they were asked, something a d/a could not do. Further, BANANE had once reported some information to the East Berlin police against UPHILL instructions, had gotten caught at it and had been subjected to a rather unpleasant session with his UPHILL handler as a result. During this meeting, he was anything but self-assured, and had hedged and hawed and bared as if he didn't know how to conduct himself. This, in FRITZ's opinion, is the manner in which too many d/a's under hostile control react. Since this contrasted with his department under normal circumstances, FRITZ extended his reasoning to indicate that the meeting after his disclosures to the police was the only occasion to date at which BANANE found himself in the position of being uncertain of what and how much he should say. By the same reasoning, if he were a d/a, such conduct might be expected at every meeting.

6. I then asked if UPHILL had ever caught WICHODIL in a lie. FRITZ went to great lengths to point out that to date UPHILL had never caught him in a lie. I then asked if UPHILL had been able to check out most of what he had reported. At this point FRITZ admitted that although they had never caught BANANE in a lie, the reason for this was that they had been almost totally unable to check out any of the material he had provided.

7. During the discussion, FRITZ stated that BANANE is currently employed by the East German Art fuer Schiff und Seefahrtwesen, about which he furnished his first and most "exciting" report. He had not previously known where BANANE was employed. BANANE is being handled by FRITZ's "Scheinkita (see WICHODIL, below).

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