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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2005

15 October 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Information Received Informally from Mr. [ ]  
14 October 1965

1. Mr. [ ] telephoned me to say he had attended a party at the home of Mr. Erich Straetling, Counselor of the German Embassy in Washington, in honor of the impending departure of First Secretary Hans-Georg Weick. Mr. Weick is returning to Bonn permanently, where he will work in the section of the German Foreign Office concerned with Berlin and East German matters. Weick has worked on substantially these concerns here in Washington and it can be expected that he will be regarded by his colleagues in Bonn as an expert on American attitudes and policies in this connection. Weick mentioned to Mr. [ ] that he expects to be in regular touch with CATIDE representatives in his new position, but he made it quite clear that while he values good positive intelligence support in his job, he is very firm that foreign policy is made in the Foreign Office or above that level and not by CATIDE.

2. Assuming that Mr. [ ] might be interested in establishing a loose, social contact with Weick, Mr. [ ] suggested to Weick that he had one or two "friends" now stationed in Bonn with whom Weick might find an occasional chat useful and enjoyable. Weick responded very positively to this suggestion, and Mr. [ ] is certain that any Bonn Base officer who might introduce himself as a friend of Mr. [ ]'s, perhaps indicating that he had recently heard from Mr. [ ] by mail, would be able to gain access easily to Weick. Important to note is, however, that Weick is quite aware of Mr. [ ]'s Agency affiliation and that he would equally identify in his own mind any Bonn Base officer who so introduced himself as a CIA representative.

3. One amusing note during the evening was that Weick asked Mr. [ ] if he knew @DESSAU and, if so, what he thinks of him. Sensing that this might indeed be a leading question, Mr. [ ] indicated only that he had met @DESSAU on a few occasions but does not know him well enough

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to have formed any clearly-defined opinions about him as yet. Mr. [redacted], further noted that he had known @DESSAU's predecessor who was @KUEHNE very well and held a distinctly favorable opinion of him. Weick's response was a wry comment to the effect that Mr. [redacted] was indeed very diplomatic and that he (Weick) had gotten along with @KUEHNE, too. Mr. [redacted] could not miss the implication that @DESSAU is not highly regarded by Weick.

4. Among the other guests at the party was General Boie, formerly with CATIDE. No conversation of significance took place with him.

5. At one point during the evening Straetling, who only recently returned to Washington from a fairly extended stay in Bonn, told Mr. [redacted] that while in Bonn he had been asked by Minister Heinrich Krone the following question: "What would you think of General Wessel as a replacement for UTILITY?" Straetling apparently responded to Krone's question in an entirely positive fashion. Mr. [redacted] explained that Straetling is quite close to Krone since the days that Straetling fulfilled the functions of Foreign Office liaison with the Bundestag and that he continues to correspond not infrequently with Krone by means of personal letters. The inference Mr. [redacted] draws is that Straetling furnishes to Krone his views as to what goes on in Washington and probably also as to what goes on in the German Embassy here. Mr. [redacted] also noted that General Wessel was recently promoted and thus now has his third star. The promotion was apparently the subject of some rather snide comments made by some of the guests at the party, including a number of members of the military attaches' offices. These snide comments seem to center on the curiosity of General Wessel having gotten so high a rank at so relatively young an age and without a chestful of World War II German medals.

Chief, EE/Germany

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