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26 September 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact with @DESSAU for Lunch on 23 September 1966

1. The purpose of the lunch was to allow @DESSAU to introduce @Dr. RASP. @Dr. RASP seems a most pleasant, young man, quite excited about his first visit to the United States and looking forward to being permanently assigned. It appears, however, that the final decision as to whether or not he will actually even come permanently to the United States has not yet been made. In addition to influencing the office he might be assigned to, his report of this TDY trip will also help decide whether he is to come PCS at all.
2. @DESSAU had with him Kreide envelopes for me and Mr. [redacted]. He took one document from my envelope and asked that I pass it directly to [redacted] on the Board of National Estimates. He said that this was in specific reply to a query made during the discussions with @GRAU and company. He also gave me a personal letter addressed to [redacted] and asked if I could send it direct through the pouch. (We later opened this letter and photographed it. A copy is attached herewith since it refers to @DESSAU's plans to visit the [redacted] at Christmas time. @DESSAU has, of course, mentioned this trip to me previously, but the letter indicates that his plans are apparently contingent upon the willingness of the [redacted] to entertain @DESSAU and his wife.)
3. I informed @DESSAU that the Director has invited General Gehlen to the United States in November and stated that General Gehlen has accepted. @DESSAU immediately indicated his great pleasure with this development and said that he had always pushed the "Doktor" to come to the United States. He referred to his earlier statements that the visit of @EGENHARDT would provide good opportunities for General Gehlen to come. I said that I knew nothing further about the visit and indicated that General Gehlen might well not want the two of them to be absent from Munich at the same time. @DESSAU merely shrugged this off, but made no further direct comment to this point. He did say he was pleased to know of the forthcoming visit and indicated that it fitted perfectly into his own schedule. He said too he would arrange to have his guest room in order, noting that General Gehlen does not like to sleep in hotels.

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4. I queried @DESSAU on the statements he had made to [] during the previous evening's cocktail party concerning the BND report about Viet Nam from French sources. I indicated the vital importance which we attached to running down the origin of all such reports and asked that he give me as much detail as he possibly could. He told me that the information had come to him in a form not to be considered a report and that he was given permission to discuss it with us if he so desired. He then repeated in somewhat greater detail the same report which he had given to [] the night before. I have subsequently passed this information to C/E/G/R.

5. I indicated to @DESSAU and @Dr. RASP that the first discussion with our S and T has been arranged for Tuesday afternoon at 1330 hours. @DESSAU indicated that he planned to attend the first session and indicated that he would decide thereafter whether to come to any further sessions. I told them I would meet them in the lobby of our building shortly before 1330 hours on next Tuesday (27 September 1956).

6. I paid the check.

7. @DESSAU exhibits a rather odd sense of security at times. In extracting the report for [] from the Kreide envelope, he excused himself from the table and went outside after unsuccessfully trying to find the particular report while sitting at the table. He attributed this action to security and apparently had no difficulty in finding the report once outside. At another point in the conversation when he was relating to me the report from Paris he paused whenever the waitress was near saying that he felt she did speak German. (Earlier, because of @Dr. RASP's difficulty with the menu, we had asked this particular waitress if she spoke German and she said that she did not.)

8. Later on in the afternoon, @DESSAU called me to indicate that he had just received the concluding report of the Moldau series. It was rather late in the afternoon and he said that he no longer had any method of getting the report to us. He said, however, that two sentences sum up the report quite nicely and he asked if I would take them down. I said that I would and I would see that they were passed on to the proper parties. After having read the two sentences to me, he indicated that they were particularly aimed at those who believed that the trend of the Soviet Bloc Armed Forces is not as great as it once was. I passed the report as he dictated it to C/E/G/R.

[]
C/E/G/CE

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