

SECRET

23 March 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT: Visit by Admiral Guenter Poser

1. Attached please find a telephone contact report dated 21 March 1967 in which [] notes that Admiral Poser, whom you met in Bonn, will be arriving in Washington on 29 March for a ten-day visit.

2. Mr. Ray Cline in his current discussions with the Division has commented on the fact that General Gehlen appears to be in difficulties with the Kiesinger Government and that there is a definite possibility that Admiral Poser may be selected to replace Gehlen as Chief of the BND. According to Mr. Cline, General Gehlen's management of the BND has been under fire in various quarters in Bonn and simultaneously Admiral Poser has been agitating to strip the BND of some of its military intelligence responsibilities which he would like to see vested in a new German equivalent of DIA, presumably with himself as chief of the new organization. In these connections, it is being suggested that replacement of General Gehlen by Admiral Poser would satisfy both the BND's critics and the Admiral's ambitions.

3. With the above background in mind, it is recommended that we follow through on []'s suggestion that Admiral Poser be received during his visit to Washington by the DDCI. It is suggested further that the DCI might be interested in the above report of a possible change in BND leadership and might himself wish to meet Admiral Poser at this time.

4. Attached for your background information are brief biographic sketches on Admiral Poser, General Boic, the West German Defense Attache who will be Admiral Poser's host in Washington, and []

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Chief, European Division

Attachments

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Gehlen 201