

COURIER

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*Repel*  
MCL-A-8105

10 September 1951

Chief, CIC Liaison Section  
Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Operational

Walter REIPEL

Reference: MGLA-7854, MGSA-4745

Your attention is invited to MGLA-7854 which obviously you had not received at the time MGSA-4745 was dispatched.

[ ]

Dist:

- 2 - CLS
- 1 - COS
- 1 - FDM ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
- 1 - ELS
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Dr. Hans SCHLICKER, approximately 34 years old, living in COBURG, physician.

Reinhold KNOLL, approximately 37 years, FASSMANNREUTH 76, bricklayer.

- c. Mother: Johanna GEIPEL, nee MAERZ, born 9 August 1894 in FLAUEM/V., needle-woman, living in BAMBERG, Hommerleinstr. 17.

Father: August GEIPEL, near STUTTGART, approximately 60 years old, locksmith. (The marriage of my parents is divorced since 1923, I was living with my mother).

A stepbrother, living in FLAUEM with the 2nd wife of my father, is called Rudolf. He is approximately 22 years old. I never saw him.

Father-in-law: Dead since 1917.

Mother-in-law: Minna DESPANG, nee FULLER, approximately 66 years old, born in Saxony, pensioned.

Children: Lore GEIPEL, born 26 July 1940 in FERNITZ/Austria.  
Annelie GEIPEL, born 4 October 1944 in KARLSBAD.  
Klaus GEIPEL, born 4 May 1948 in FASSMANNREUTH.

Cousin: Elfriede GRENZ, nee MAERZ, born 30 January 1910 in FLAUEM/V., living in BAMBERG, Karolinenstr. 14, house-wife.

- d. Dr. Johannes WEBER, physician, approximately 40 years of age, REGNITZLOSOU near REHAU.

Georg LAUDING, approximately 48 years, foreman, REGNITZLOSOU.

Liska KNOLL, approximately 36 years, housewife, FASSMANNREUTH 76.

Kurt GERBETH, approximately 31 years, carpenter, FASSMANNREUTH.

Robert RICHTER, approximately 44 years, FASSMANNREUTH, No. 51, manufacturer of liquor.

Earl SCHMIDT, approximately 46 years, HOP, Fabriksohle, salaried.

Max RODEL, REHAU, Ascherstr. 1, butcher.

Hermann FLOHS, REHAU, Unlitzensteig 1, bookkeeper.

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## Course of Life:

On 15 April 1916, I was born in FLAUBEN/V., as the single child of my parents, the mechanic August GRIPPEL and his wife Johanna nee MAERZ. From 1922 to 1926 I attended the elementary school there, from 1926 to 1927 the "class of languages," from 1927 to 1933 the German High School. In 1933 and 1934 I worked as volunteer for the "Vogtländische Maschinenfabrik" (VOMAG) in FLAUBEN/V. At that time I was for 3 months a member of HJ.

On 5 October 1934, I joined the fighting SS in DRESDEN-TRACHMANNBERGE. After a short training I was ordered to I./SS 2. From 1 April 1937, up to 30 March 1938 I attended as "Facharich" (officer candidate) the SS-Junkerschule (officer aspirants training school) in BRAUNSCHWEIG. There I was advanced on 1 October 1937 to the rank of a "Standartenjunker" (Facharich), on 1 February 1938 to a "Standartenoberjunker" (Oberfacharich), on 13 March 1938 to an "Untersturmführer" (Lieutenant). Later I served for: the SS Administrative School in DACHAU up to 1 November 1938, the SS Region (Oberabschnitt) FULDA-HESSIA in AROLSSEN up to 1 April 1939, the SS-Junkerschule (officer aspirant school) in BRAUNSCHWEIG up to 1 December 1939, as chief of courses of instruction in BRESLAU up to 1 April 1940, as adjutant of the school of non-commissioned officers in LUBLINITZ up to 15 June 1940. On 20 April 1940, I was advanced to an SS-Obersturmführer (1st Lieutenant).

Further employments: Platoon-leader and adjutant of I./SS WESTLAND in MUNICH up to 1 November 1940, company commander of the SS replacement battalion in COSLAR up to 1 February 1941, adjutant of the III./SS 9 in North Norway up to 7 September 1941. There I was wounded near MURMANSK (Russia). Up to 1 February 1942 in the hospitals TRONDHØJ, MARVIK and SCHNERØIN. Then company commander of the headquarters company of the tank-detachment SS Division WIKING in WILD-FLICKEN, SENNELAGER and Russia (ROSTOV, Caucasus Mountains, Mine, Demox). On 30 January 1943, I was advanced to captain. Having been wounded again and ill I was transferred on 1 April 1943 to the SS Tank Training Bgt. in BITSCH. There I was the commander of the 5th company. From there I was ordered as teacher of tactics for tanks and chief of inspection to the Tank-School of the Army to NYELOS and FALLINGBOSTEL. There I was up to the 1 May 1944. Then I became company commander of the 2./SS Tank Bgt 16 in Hungary. In the beginning of June 1944 I was transferred to Italy. On 2 July 1944 I was wounded again, and was in the hospitals BOLOGNA and BAD KISSINGEN. Since 1 December 1944 I was a major of the headquarters of the Tank Training Bgt in SENNELAGER. From 15 January 1945, I was commander of the IIIrd Training group of the school of non-commissioned officers in LAIBACH. There I was at the end of the war.

Because a prisoner of war of the English. Escaped in the Wit-Sunday night 1945 to FUCHSCLANNING near SALZBURG. From there I came home. As the place was occupied by the Americans, I went to my brother-in-law Dr. KERSTING in EISENBERG/Erft., where I was living under the name Guntar WOLF up to the October 1945. Then I lived as Guntar WOLF in BREITBACH near EBRACH/Oberfranken up to October 1946. Later I was living at home, not observed by any unknown persons. I was

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to be confined in a camp, because I fell under the orders of automatic arrest. Only near relatives knew that I was at home. At the end of January 1947, I reported myself to the Constabulary in KEMAU. I was transported through HQF to DAGHAU, from there to the camp REGENSBURG and later to the camp HAMBELBURG. On 24 December 1947 I was sentenced by the Spruchkammer and released.

In February 1948, Herr BARDATSCH living as sub-tenant in my apartments, was called upon by three men being dressed in leather-cloaks and having a Volks-wagen. My wife told me that these men are of the CIC. She told me already, when I was still in the camp REGENSBURG, that the new tenant in our house, the chief of the Border Police Post MURR, works for the American Secret Service. The wife of MURR had told it to my wife, and gave her also something of the cigarettes and the coffee they had received from these men. Later Herr MURR brought to this house also Herr BRADATSCH.

*Koch* I myself was also interested in this work and asked Herr BRADATSCH for the address of one of these men. (At that time Herr MURR did not work longer for these men). I received the clear address of the chief of R 131, cover-name FISCHER. I visited him and I received after approximately 4 weeks the task to make agitation in East-Thuringia and North-West-Saxony. In April 1948, I went on my trip with I-pass. I demanded a Kennkarte and I-pass for the name walter GUNTER (corresponding to the monogram W.G. on my ring and clothes). In FORSSNECK I went to the police to get billets, and I would have had nearly a bad luck, because the papers were issued not for Walter GUNTER, but for Gunter WALTER. I was saved only by my presence of mind. This thoughtless action of the organization caused the first interior break in me. I had good successes and returned after about 3 weeks. I had occupied, as far as I remember, 11 towns.

In the beginning of May 1948, I was ordered the 2nd time to drive there with I-pass. I had again good successes and returned well. The 3rd time I drove only in August 1948. In the meantime, in a discussion in July 1948 in ESSELINGEN at the Organization 120, I was reprimanded that my men did not report themselves. However, the confidential men had not yet received this order, because only in the above-mentioned conference was fixed to write the reports by secret ink. This means, that I was reprimanded absolutely unjustly.

For my 3rd drive I didn't get an I-pass, but I was ordered to cross the border illegally with false East-Zonal documents. I couldn't understand that. They pretended the issue of a pass takes too much time. This action was absolutely unconscientious, because I knew at that time approximately 18 co-operators in the East Zone. Having executed my task I drove to West BERLIN, reported myself to the CIC and requested to fly back to the West Zone. I made there my statements at the CIC officer and told him my cover emergency number. They asked in the West by radio for the correctness of my statement and received a negative answer: They didn't know me! So I was compelled to cross again the border illegally. I left, however, my documents in BERLIN and requested to mail them by airmail to the Organization 120. My doubts

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about the illegal return to the US Zone were justified, because I was standing at the border 1½ hours in a distance of 5 meters behind a Russian double post. Only with greatest caution I succeeded in retiring and crossing the border. They had promised to me at that time a wrist watch for the execution of the tasks of the 3rd trip, however, I never received it. The greater part of the promises of the organization were not kept, and the rest of the promises were kept unpunctually.

*Boonit*

After my 3rd trip I was together with my wife invited by the chief of the Organization 120, Herr HERMANN (cover name), to ESSELINGEN. He offered to me 500 DM for my expenses for fare, however, I took only 250 DM. They were not living badly at this organization, and I myself was also living fine, however, there was no comparison with them. I remember only the great number of packages of chocolate taken by Herr HERMANN to his wife being in the hospital, or the box with French cognac standing on the street beside the automobile. Instead of these things we received: toilet-paper, pipe cleaners and wicks for the lighter and etc.

For the service of this organization are characteristic the following facts, which I can state by oath:

1. In the office of R 131 Herr FISCHER criticized the frivolous keeping of the personal data by the Org. 120. "In a wooden chest locked up by a simple lock.
2. On the same occasion Herr FISCHER said: "The blond (or red-blond ?) girl, the red devil (he meant a secretary of 120) has attempted to commit suicide. First she was in the bed with Herr WEBER (at 120), and then with Herr HERMANN."
3. On Easter 1949 I was with my wife for some days in UBERSSEN at the CHIEMSEE (lake), and the restaurant "Zum Hinterwirt" there was attended also by Herr WEBER and HERMANN. One evening we were sitting together with the tipsy innkeeper. He asked me courteously, if I am also a member of the espionage circle. Because Herr WEBER had told him about that. Once he was there also with a man of the Zeiss Werke in JENA. They make economic espionage. But Herr WEBER is a fine customer and spends always much money. (NOTE: The report of the innkeeper).
4. Although Herr BURN and later also Herr BRADATSCHE had retired from this work, I was visited all the time in my apartments by Herr KURZ, HANSEN and WEBER (cover names). The Volkswagen automobiles were standing before the door. Once Frau BURN called from the window: "Now the men of the GIC come again to Herr GEIPEL." The men of the organization uncovered me at that time, when my work was still completely unknown in this community.
5. A radio operator appointed to work for my group, came to the seat to get some instructions. However, the instructors of the organization were not present, and this man was compelled after some days to go back without any results.

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6. They intended to conceal from me the transportation of a wireless apparatus determined for my group. The result was an intervention of the Bavarian Border Police. Later the apparatus was laid down in a certain, pretty opened place in the East Zone.

7. The organization 131 received 10,000 DM each month. I was several times an eyewitness that Herr FISCHER made on a slip a private settlement of accounts, and I saw on the strip, the money was bundled with, the cipher 5,000 (there were 2 bundles). The organization had approximately 35 co-operators. I myself had 28 of them. However, I received altogether 3,000 DM.

These were only some examples. My fault was, that I retained too much money, however, I didn't embezzle this money. In my apartments it was sometimes like in a restaurant. There came co-operators from the one and from the other side, who were always, when they were at me or in a restaurant in the vicinity, living very well, sent or took with them home always many things. I myself was compelled to travel very much, and it was impossible to pay the expenses for these trips from the money given to me for these trips. To the automobile bought by Herr FISCHER, I was compelled to pay 600 DM. However, when I needed the automobile, it was not there. Later I bought, with the permission of Herr FISCHER, myself an automobile, and he lent me for this purchase 800 DM. Later this money was deducted from my salary.

This purchase of the automobile was disapproved by the organization. Besides that, I criticized a leave of Herr WEBER and his wife, and also some other things. In August 1949 for the E 131 was taken a house in BAYREUTH, and I should get with my family apartments in this house. I refused, however, to move to this house, because Herr FISCHER demanded the following:

1. To live there under a cover name. I have 3 children, 2 of them attend the school. I couldn't understand how the children should go to school.
2. Not to use the main entrance of the house.
3. Not to open the shutters in the front of this house.
4. The children are not permitted to play in the garden.

I resigned to live in such a madhouse, and I was again disapproved by the organization. At the end of August 1949 we had in BAYREUTH a serious quarrel. First they reproached me with having called BAYREUTH at 3 o'clock in the morning, although I was in a party. Actually I called already in the evening at 7 o'clock, and at 3 o'clock in the night I was at the border, where I met a man of my group (?). I learned later, that this call was made in the night at 3 o'clock from HOF. Probably the resident of 126 or 127 called from there. Then I was reprimanded, because I had said "my co-operators." They said to me, that these men are their co-operators, paid by their money. I answered that I had risked my life for them. It is true, I drove home from BAYREUTH, and

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sent nothing more to the B 131. I didn't hear from them for a long time. In October or November I was called by the chief of the Organization 120. He wanted to speak with me in REHAD. We met each other, and Herr WEBER was also present. In the conversation was fixed that I should work again with my men, but for another organization. I agreed with it. Before Herr HERMANN said to me, that I was somehow suspected by a man of the organization to work also "for the other side." Because I wrote so often to my father. However, I didn't see and hear anything of my father since 1944. By reason of this man's suspicion, however, I wrote actually once to PLAUEN. I received an answer from my stepbrother, who informed me, that my father works since a longer time in some works near STUTTGART. So this man's suspicion broke down.

On 20 December 1949, I was ordered to MUNICH and became acquainted there with my new chief, Herr BAER (cover name). In January 1950, I had again a discussion with him in MURNBERG. There it was fixed that I should get the monthly sum of 1,000 DM; 400 for me, 200 DM for my trips, and 400 for the co-operators. The work got on very well. However, when the co-operators came to get here some instructions, I didn't have enough money. It happened several times, that I was compelled to give my wrist watch to the pawnshop in CONZURG (I have witnesses). Possibly I was also too generous to some co-operators. Feasts were not celebrated, as Herr BAER reprimanded me later. I also didn't celebrate feasts alone and I did not drink. None of my co-operators saw me ever drunk. It is true, I bought from this money some new things without the knowledge of Herr BAER. This was not correct of me, and I understand that. I wanted always to help my co-operators, and I gave even once a false report to Herr BAER about the daily service of a Volkspolice unit, because the lady-co-operator coming into gave to me only very few informations. I knew that I didn't act correctly, and in July 1950 I experienced the consequences: I was dismissed. I had in my apartments in the absence of my wife a vehement discussion, and in the course of this discussion I became more and more excited. Nevertheless Herr BAER was so honest to send to me in 3 or 4 months still the sum of 1200 DM.

I took then a job as a commercial representative of liquor, and I earned up to January 1950 an average 250 DM monthly. I would not have been able to live with my family from this money, however, I never told my wife, how much money I earned. The result was that I became indebted. I owe to my mother 400 DM, to the chief of the liquor enterprise still 400 DM (He gave me a notice of dismissal in February 1951). A bill of exchange of 300 DM expired on 3 September 1951. I was not able to discharge it. To a grocer I owe 40 DM, to a salesman of textiles 100 DM. I sold my bicycle for 50 DM. To a fish salesman I owe 50 DM, to an acquainted woman in HOP 50 DM, to a shoe shop 50 DM. Altogether I have debts of about 1,600 DM. I had even to do with the bailiff.

I didn't tell my wife anything though for a long time, and when the dunning letters and the creditors came to our house, my wife was shocked. If she would not have been, we would have died of hunger. She saved some money in the good years 1948/49, and I did not have any idea about it. She wanted to build our own little house and saved as much money as she could. I don't know, how much it was. I was able to give back some money to the most urgent creditors,

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and to pay the bailiff and the pawnshop. For the life she could buy only the most necessary things. I made all efforts to find a job. I was at the labor office, in factories, at the foreman of the forest workers - everywhere mainly. I drove by bicycle to INSBACH in order to get a rent as a professional soldier. I hoped to get a rent as invalid - everywhere nothing. I don't get even an unemployment support, and I don't want to get a welfare support. I made even a black market business with American goods. Now I have made an application to migrate to Canada - and this is now my last hope.

I walked often in the forest in order to search outside houses remembered by children, and I thought, it must be better again. I tried in vain to find other apartments. I must leave the border area to the west. 1. In this place I cannot find an existence. 2. The threat comes from the east side.

Since October/November 1950 happened the following:

My wife had since the beginning of 1950 a correspondence with a school acquaintance of her, Herr Earl KLEIN, MAJER/V., Strassmannstr. 28, born approximately 1917, married, 2 children, former officer, now bookbinder at his father-in-law. In the summer 1949 he visited us once, and he sent sometimes stockings, material or curtains. He sold them and sent to his wife food for them. In the summer 1950 he sent these things through BEHLE. As far as I remember, in September 1950 the BEHLE-man wrote to me, that KLEIN was arrested. My wife said at once that he was arrested in connection with my former work. In October 1950 we received a letter from KLEIN, by which he informed us that he would come in near future to visit us. A short time later, when I came home from a drive as salesman of liquor, KLEIN was at us. My wife said as usually in the bedroom (it was late when I came home, and I had not spoken with KLEIN), that she had said to him frankly during their conversation, that he was seen by the Russians. KLEIN grew pale and admitted that it was so. By reason of the investigations he was suspected to be a co-operator of the Germans, he would state that this is not true and that he didn't know anything about my work (KLEIN actually did not know anything). The NKVD left to him the alternative, either he left his family, or to execute an order. On the following morning I spoke myself with KLEIN. He confirmed everything said to me by my wife. His order was the following:

1. How I look?
2. How I am standing towards the occupation forces NKVD and Gendarm?
3. How is my financial situation?
4. Which relatives I have?
5. Which relatives I have in the East Zone?

He was arrested, but when all that however he was not permitted to do anything about that. He remained together the Germans. Co 1, Am 2, National of liquor license, but couldn't get a license. On 21. 10. 1950 he was arrested. He was released by his occupation. On 21. 10. 1950

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I don't know other women. I am not a drinker, although I like to drink beer. I am not a member of a party, and I don't want to be a member of any party.

I made this statement voluntarily and it is true.

Read through, approved and signed

s/ GRIFEL

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