HASS-207

SECRET/CONTROL
U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

[redacted]

DIR-5512
IN HASS

[redacted]

Chief of Station, [redacted]

FEB 23 1955

Chief,

Karl Theodor [redacted]

Ref : FGW-1673 (not sent to [redacted]

1. Recently a discussion was held between a member of our Frankfurt station and an official of the German Blank Office (i.e. embryo Ministry of Defense) in an attempt to learn more about subject. The Blank official stated that while he was in Italy in July 1954 for the purpose of establishing liaison with the Italian military services, the name of subject came up in discussions and plans to expel HASS from Italy were made known to him by General Musco. Musco also advised that HASS was persona-non-grata with the military intelligence services but that security officials of the Interior Ministry had for a long time been trying to protect him. Musco went on to state that a sufficiently strong case against HASS has now been built up to demand his expulsion from Italy.

2. It was during this meeting with Musco that the Blank official learned of a great rift and intrigue between the Interior and Defense Ministries' security officials. Musco also told the Blank official that he considers Hans GEHLEN undesirable, alleging he has close ties to HASS. Musco so informed German Ambassador BRETTANO, who reported it to the German Foreign Office.

3. The Blank official stated that after his visit to Italy and meetings with Generals Musco and Mancinelli, he became aware of the fact that a great deal of bitterness exists between the Italian Defense and Interior Ministries' officials on intelligence matters.

4. It had been previously reported by our station that HASS allegedly peddled intelligence obtained from Italian services. Since that time the above Blank official informed our Frankfurt station that HASS was alleged to have had close Communist contacts in the Rome area.

8 February 1955

[redacted]
WE/FE/4/[redacted]/ar

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