

DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION
S-E-C-R-E-T

PROCESSING

TO	Chief of Station, Germany		PROPOSED	ACTION	ACCOMPLISHED
INFO.	Chief of Base, Bonn	Chief, Munich Liaison Base	X	MARKED FOR INDEXING	
	Chief of Base, Berlin	Chief, Frankfurt Opns Base		NO INDEXING REQUIRED	
FROM	Chief, EE			ONLY QUALIFIED HEADQUARTERS DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING	
SUBJECT	BEDOX/Operational Emil HOFFMANN			ABSTRACT	
				MICROFILM	

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

For your information.

1. In a [redacted] report on the hostile activity of tourists visiting Hungary it was noted that an Emil HOFFMANN, born in 1911, a citizen of the German Federal Republic, residing in West Berlin, who traveled systematically to Hungary as a journalist and businessman was suspected of working with the British Intelligence Service. In 1944 when he was an officer in the German Intelligence Service residing in Budapest he was reported to be an agent of the British Intelligence Service. Just before the beginning of the revolt he traveled to Hungary as a journalist. In November 1959 the security organs of the Hungarian Peoples Republic arrested his contact - a Hungarian citizen, who under interrogation admitted that he undertook espionage activity from 1956 on instructions of HOFFMANN. HOFFMANN was primarily interested in military and political information.

2. As a result of the above we specifically queried [redacted] concerning Dr. Emil HOFFMANN. [redacted] recalled that he heard Subject mentioned as a suspected agent of the BED against whom Section 3, Department I, UB was running an operation. HOFFMANN occasionally visited the Poznan fairs, at which time he was closely surveilled and investigated. Source recalled having discussed the case with Colonel Henryk SOKOLAK [redacted] former deputy chief (now chief) of Department I, UB, who stated that he was personally interested in the case since HOFFMANN was a former Gestapo officer and an unreconstructed Nazi. Source does not know to what extent Section 3 has been successful in their operation against Subject. He can provide no further information about HOFFMANN.

3. Attached for your information is a resume of Headquarters traces on Subject. Headquarters has no objection to your passing the [redacted] data contained in this dispatch to the liaison service currently interested in Subject.

Attachment: HERewith
Resume of Traces (6 copies)

- Distribution:
- 2 - COS/g w/att (2 copies)
 - 1 - BOM w/att (1 cpy)
 - 1 - BCB w/att (1 cpy)
 - 1 - MLB w/att (1 cpy)
 - 1 - FOB w/att (1 cpy)

- 2 - EE/P w/att (1)
- 1 - RI w/att (1)

ROUTING	INITIAL
EE/AS	[initials]
RS/TT	[initials]
RI/PI	[initials]

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DISPATCH

ATTACHMENT TO: EJOV-2760
17 Jan 1962

Resume of Headquarters Traces on Dr. Emil HOFFMANN

1. Dr. Emil Fridolin HOFFMANN born 10 October 1911 in Westphalia, Germany is a well known legal traveller and East-West trader. Prior to 1945 he was employed in the German Propaganda Ministry and as Press Attache at the German Embassy in Bucharest. Following his release from a British detention camp in 1947, HOFFMANN became a member of Hauheimer-Kreis (Hauheim Circle), a group of unreconstructed Nazis who desired to become the nucleus of a new national socialist political organization. When a number of these Kreis members were arrested by the British for subversive activity HOFFMANN disassociated himself from the group.

2. In the spring of 1949 HOFFMANN was the Chief of the Frankfurt/Main office of the anti-communist newspaper Echo der Woche which was published in Munich. He also wrote articles for the Wirtschaftsrevue, a foreign trade journal published in Constance. Later HOFFMANN moved to West Berlin to become the representative for the Handelsgesellschaft Atlas (Atlas Trading Co.) and Ishausen and Co., both of which were involved in east/west commerce. Atlas was at one time of interest to KUBARK as a source of funds for communist activity in West Germany. Because HOFFMANN's commercial dealings brought him into contact with many particularly shady personalities (among them, the former Director of the Foreign Trade Section in the pre-Communist Hungarian Foreign Ministry, Laszlo VASARHELYI, presently a Swedish citizen, he came under suspicion by western intelligence services as an agent for the opposition. In 1953 he left Berlin to live in Mehlem near Bonn. He remained there until the fall of 1955 and during this time wrote articles for the Volkswirt, a Frankfurt foreign trade and economic journal, as well as completing his book, East/West Trade at Twilight which revealed that he is a bitter enemy of Adenauer's foreign policy and the U.S. which in his view had dictated the foreign policy.

3. According to an unconfirmed report, HOFFMANN's anti-Americanism is based upon the erroneous belief that U.S. organizations in Berlin, jealous of his position in trade circles, denounced him as an agent for the east and unjustly harassed, in fact drove him out of Berlin in 1953. Both ODOPAL and LFV conducted investigations of HOFFMANN in early 1950s since he was deeply involved in semi-legal east/west trade and associated with proven KfS operatives. The LFV took up HOFFMANN's passport making travel outside Germany impossible which resulted in curtailing his business trips as well as his income.

4. Although continuing to reside legally in Mehlem, HOFFMANN returned to Berlin as a foreign trade consultant-representative for

several east/west firms and as a journalist specializing in eastern economic matters. He maintains a professional and social liaison with all satellite missions in both East and West Berlin and frequently entertains members of the Polish, Czech and Yugoslav Military Missions in West Berlin. He is a charter member of the Deutsche-Chinesische Gesellschaft and in 1958 was spending a great deal of time promoting trade with Red China.

5. Varying reports identify Subject as possibly having been a British and/or American agent in the early 1950s. An LfV source reported that the Russians were aware of HOFFMANN's work with American intelligence and instructed him to move to Mahlem in order to divert the suspicion of his cooperation with RIB. Clandestine contact with the Russians, however, was maintained by HOFFMANN in Mahlem during the two years that he lived there. In December 1959/January 1960 both SG and SMOTE expressed an "investigative interest" in HOFFMANN whereby SMOTE requested CALLIKAK coverage on him. There is no further record of HOFFMANN after this date.

SECRET