

SRCA 4841

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Chief, EM
Chief of Mission, Frankfurt
Operational/CALL

20 NOV 1952

KIRBY 15

In response to your request, [] has given the following information concerning his meeting with KIRBY 15. This took place about a year ago with [] introduced as a Staff Officer from Washington generally interested in the stay-behind problem but not specifically briefed on his operation.

"My first concern at that time was the apparent confusion between important and unimportant details in the briefings that K-15 had prepared for his stay-behind sources. You may recall the long lists of questions in these briefings, covering everything from the most insignificant sociological information to broad speculative questions concerning the Soviet capabilities to wage modern or even futuristic war. On this point K-15 rebutted that he had to gauge his questions to the character of the agent and since his arrangements with his agents was based upon their idealistic motivation he could not suggest too bluntly that they were spies primarily engaged in the collection of OB in support of the American Army. Apart from that consideration he seemed to have a very good grasp of the essentials of military intelligence collection."

"There can be no doubt but that K-15 is a commanding and persuasive personality. I got the impression that our relationship to him, at that time at least, was one of an alliance between a German military adventurer and a foreign power and that our control over him was weak."

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