

EGQA-19337 dated 23 June 1953

CIC has received instructions to interrogate everyone connected with the PONGER-VERBER affair. The name of Willi KRICHBAUM was mentioned in this connection and Mr. Benjamin of CIC opined that KRICHBAUM had probably provided PONGER with considerable information on Zipper, either directly or through HOETTL. However, from something else said, it appeared that neither Benjamin nor Parkinson had yet read the KRICHBAUM interrogation.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3028
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2000

DFB 27683 dated 25 June 1953 (Interrogation of Kurt PONGER)

PONGER stated that the only "SCHAEFFER" he knew was a Dr. SCHAEFFER, a Tibetan explorer and former SS officer. PONGER recalled that KRIECHBAUM, during one of PONGER's last visits to his home, received a call from "SCHAEFFER". PONGER asked HOETTL and KRIECHBAUM if this "SCHAEFFER" was identical with the SS officer. Both HOETTL and KRIECHBAUM gave PONGER a definite negative reply to this question. PONGER believes that "SCHAEFFER" is the code name for someone known both to HOETTL and KRIECHBAUM, but PONGER stated that he did not know "SCHAEFFER's identity or significance.

Very likely
CICZAREK

~~FOR~~ COORDINATION WITH Army