

15. Dec 1953  
Nr. 67/53 s.v.

TO : 25 (25/B)  
FROM : 30 (46)  
SUBJECT: PONGER/DR.HOETTL - KRUG Connections  
REF. : Memo 25.50/B dtd 1.4.53, # 6801

1. By order of 30 (30.0) 46 was charged to ~~make investigations~~ into the attitude of KRUG, co-worker of the organization, concerning his relations with PONGER and DR.HOETTL.

2. Tests applied have demonstrated that the whole facts of case, as far as pertaining to KRUG's relations with PONGER/DR.HOETTL are thoroughly comprised in the referenced memo. Further knowledge with regard to time and facts could not be obtained despite of discussions going into all details. Supplementing notes, letters or other evidence could not be found. The plan of interrogating the only two witnesses to be taken into consideration, PONGER and DR.HOETTL, had to be waived by the investigator.

3. KRUG cannot give any explanation on the 1. paragraph of PONGER's letter to DR.HOETTL, dated 26.8.51, reading: "I stayed with our mutual friend approx. until midnight and gained the assurance that our conversation will have organizational consequences." According to his statement no organizational problems have been discussed at these talks in August 1951 (jaunt to Fuschl). KRUG still maintains his assertion after careful consideration and expressed the presumption that perhaps PONGER and DR.HOETTL might have had any plans concerning his person, which, however, were not perceptible to him. Even today it is quite unknown to him what it could have concerned; it seems entirely impossible to him that these talks could refer to his membership to the organization.

*Nuts*  
4. KRUG convincingly declared that PONGER did not have any knowledge on his person, neither from the time before 1945 nor after 1945, facts which he could have used for pressure on him or even as an attempt of blackmailing. PONGER has never made the attempt of even mentioning such knowledge. The maintaining of relations with PONGER and the agreement to a new meeting with DR. HOETTL were entirely on a voluntary basis.

5. The investigations proved that KRUG himself never tried to arrange a meeting with PONGER, neither at the beginning nor in the further progress. It was always PONGER who took the initiative of arranging and actually holding another meeting with DR.HOETTL.

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6. The investigations proved that KRUGs attitude towards the organization was incorrect inasmuch as he did not make any report to his IS-superior on his connections to PONGER and DR.HOETTL and that his later reports were lacking essential facts, whereby the org.command only received imcomplete information which had to be completed step by step. Furthermore KRUG has failed to inform his superior on occurences which he reported to another group.

KRUG could not explain these lapses which, according to IS-regulations could have relieved him. The feeling of owing gratitude to PONGER due to his attitude in the Nuremberg inquiries, the interpretation that the meetings were merely of private nature, the lack of remembering facts which he considered to be meaningless, the serious illness in 1952 and the shock he suffered from ~~when he~~ heard of the arrest of PONGER might be estimated as mitigating circumstances from the human point of view but cannot be considered a full excuse.

7. Being convicted of violations against the liabilities to duty in connection with his relations with PONGER and DR.HOETTL, KRUG has been formally reprimanded.

8. With regard to the fact that he rendered good services to the organization for a period of more than 5 years, his suitability based on rich experience and character and the open mindedness showed during the investigation, it has been desisted from removing him from his present job, since such a transfer also means a classification to a lower wage-group, on the other hand a transfer to a higher classified position with corresponding greater responsibility will be out of question for the time being.

9. Guarantee is given that KRUG whose failures result from human weakness, under the deep impression which the inquiries and their results caused, will try hard to observe the obligations of the service and also the unwritten rules of the intelligence service with the greatest accuracy.

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