

ATR-4w-2869

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23 Aug 51  
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Senior Representative for Germany  
Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Attention:

Operational  
Hans LOBENS - Employment Prospects in  
the Federal Service

1. Subject advised the undersigned that upon his last visit to the Bundeskriminalamt for a discussion of employment possibilities, both HADSMANN and his assistant (sic) stated that subject heads their list of employment prospects (Spitzenkandidat). Alas, the Americans had lodged a veto against his employment.

2. As you probably know, Subject has for a long time been employed in a confidential capacity, first by WIGUS and later by HICOG. His current overt position is that of Chief Investigator for the Programs Branch (PCA) of HICOG Berlin. Would it not be rather inconsistent, to put it mildly, if we veto him for a position in the German Federal service? As a matter of fact, I doubt whether Subject has in fact been vetoed by us. Much more likely, HADSMANN and the Federal Ministry of the Interior, rather than admitting that they are determined not to employ Subject, used the convenient and time-honored subterfuge of blaming the Americans for their inability to take him on.

3. In the long run, Subject's belief (or at least lingering doubts) that I myself may have resorted to blackballing him in order to retain his services, may affect our relationship detrimentally. Up till now he has played with completely open cards in dealing with me — which is saying a lot. He has never concealed from me that he is intensely concerned about his and his family's future, once his American employment ceases. He wants to get back into the Government service, mainly in order to regain his retirement pay privileges. I have on repeated occasions assured Subject that, much as my organization appreciates his services, we would certainly not make it difficult for him to get a job with the Bundeskriminalamt. I went as far as assuring him that, except for the dubious value of American recommendations, we would be happy to rush his application.

4. Proffering my personal advice, I have told Subject that I consider a position, commensurate with his abilities, in the Federal Service as out of the question. I cautioned him not to be too persistent in his job-hunting endeavors, lest he antagonize prospective employers. I also told Subject that to the best of my knowledge there exist deep-rooted objections among leading officials in the Federal Ministry of the Interior against his person, whereas the Bundeskriminalamt would be only too happy to take him (this, I realize,

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does not exactly correspond to the truth. I finally promised to make an inquiry as to whether there has ever been an official W. J. Demaree objecting to his employment and if so whether those objections still hold good. Should the answer be in the negative, I would tell him so.

5. Regarding his professional future, I have told Subject the following: For the time being he should not contemplate any drastic change in his employment status, but bide his time. There was no intention on our part to discontinue with his services in the foreseeable future. Nor was it likely that my organization, once our relationship terminates, would simply throw him to the wolves. After all, he had served us in a highly confidential capacity and we would, at least morally, feel indebted to him. Without wanting to make commitments, I assured Subject that when the time comes, we would make a very determined effort to get him placed in a government position. Since Subject himself is no longer shipped on getting back into criminal investigation work, I suggested — as a working hypothesis — that any future German intelligence service would no doubt be in dire need of experts in that field. Whereas most former Abwehr personnel would be found wanting in familiarity with contemporary problems and operating methods, he in turn can point not only to expertise in investigative work, but also to the fact that he has more or less continuously been engaged in intelligence work. I could therefore envisage his employment in a responsible position with a future German intelligence service where his current work would stand him in good stead.

6. The following action is requested:

A. WFO - Please ascertain the official WFOG stand re Subject's employment. If possible, obtain a clear commitment that WFOG, should the question of Subject's federal employment be raised again, will not demur.

B. WFB - Please raise with WFB the general question as to whether our professional agents of German nationality will be favorably considered for positions with a future German IG. We fully realize that at the present time and probably for a long time to come, this must be considered a strictly academic question. We further realize that WFB is in no position to saddle a future German IG with employment commitments. All we would like you to do is to engender among responsible WFB staff officers an awareness of the problem posed by us and to elicit their reaction. If they as such as state that there exists a definite interest in securing the employment of professional agents now serving the WFB, we would feel less conjectural in holding out hopes to them.

POB  
Bring this to my attention  
when I visit you next. Do  
not ~~write~~ a zig. ]