

Chief, Foreign Division "M"

17 July 1951

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Wilhelm Karl LUDTKE

Ref : MIB-A-8258, 9498, 9500.

1. Subject, born 22 June 1886 at Fanger, Kreis Nangard, Pomerania, has been a member of the German Police since 1910 when he joined the uniformed constabulary (Schutzpolizei).

2. From 1914 to 1945 subject has been a member of the Criminal Police. Until 30 January 1933 he was in charge of the Political Police (IA) of Police Headquarters in Frankfurt/Main and of Harburg/Wilhelmsburg. He claims to have been relieved of his position at the request of the Nazi Gauleiter TELONOW, and to have been transferred to Berlin on 1 May 1933, after a disciplinary court had convicted him of having interfered with rallies and demonstrations of the NSDAP. From May 1933 until May 1945 he headed the homicide squad of the Berlin Police. His last rank was that of Kriminalrat.

3. Since the end of the war, subject - who on the score of his Nazi Party Membership - is ineligible for reemployment by the police - has been retained as a private investigator by coffee import and export firms both in Hamburg and in Berlin. In close cooperation with the Berlin branch of the customs investigating service (Zollfahndungsstelle), subject has tried to check the illegal import of coffee from Iron Curtain countries. He is considered an authority on illegal East-West trade centering on Polish-Jewish DP circles in the Berlin area.

4. Subject is a tall (1.75 meter), distinguished looking, ruddy-faced, white-haired gentleman of athletic build. He is well-grounded in all phases of police-investigative work, but lacks the ingenuity and imagination required of an independent intelligence operator.

5. Subject's political leanings are toward conservatism. He is professedly anti-Communist, expressing in a matter-of-course fashion which leaves little doubt as to their genuineness.

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