

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET 10041 32909 0041

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FROM: **DOCUMENT MICROFILM SERVICE**  
 DOCUMENT NUMBER EGBA-32909.  
 DOCUMENT DATE 4 June 1956  
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TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
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1. EEWg	20W		13 JUN 1956	[ ]
2.				
3. EE/pw		JUN 14 1956		[ ]
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ice [ ] ops  
**FILE CLASSIFICATION CHANGE REQUEST**  
 - what's being done about poor ol' Becking 13?  
 might as well drop, eh?  
 Being dropped

FILE TITLE: Agent Progress Rpts - Paland  
 FILE NUMBER: ~~50-6-3-430~~  
 ENCLOSURE: EGBA-30009  
 DATE PROCESSED: 11 JUN 1956  
 ABSTRACT: [ ]  
 INDEX: [ ]

PUNCHED

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
 SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2D  
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 DATE 2008

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VIA: AIR  
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DISPATCH NO. EGB-A-32909

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CLASSIFICATION

JUN 4  
1956

TO : Chief, EE

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

INFO: COS

FROM : Chief of Base, Berlin

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Operational/BEDOX/BECRIPPLE/[ ]

SPECIFIC— Arrest and Doubling of Identities 1 and 2

Reference: EGBA-30009 of 18 Feb 56

1. Introduction: As stated in paragraph 4 of reference dispatch, BECRIPPLE-2 had met with Identity 1 of separate cover twice since the [ ] affair and Identity-1 had given BECRIPPLE-2 no cause for suspicion that he had been arrested and doubled by the MfS as a result of [ ]; confession to the MfS. However, each meeting with Identity-1 had been countersurveilled and we were going on the assumption that Identity-1 was guilty until proved innocent. In view of the recent aggressive action by the MfS against AIS barge operations, we thought that if Identity 1 had been caught as a result of [ ] testimony, he would be doubled against us in conformance with recent MfS practice. As is reported below, this was the case.

2. Meeting with Identity-1's Wife on 28 March: On 28 March Identity-2, Identity-1's wife, reported in via the BEKING-13 cutout number and asked that BECRIPPLE-2 meet her. BECRIPPLE-2 scheduled a meeting with Identity-2 in a Roseneck cafe at 1500 hours and [ ] was sent to countersurveillance the meeting site. The meeting went off as scheduled and [ ] could determine no positive signs of Opposition surveillance of the meeting. Identity-2 was sitting in the cafe when BECRIPPLE-2 arrived and was nervous, her hands shaking considerably. This nervousness was so obvious to BECRIPPLE-2 that he asked Identity-2 what sort of an MfS mission she was on. Identity-2 admitted immediately that she had been sent to BECRIPPLE-2 by the MfS and said she was ready to tell everything. BECRIPPLE-2 then took her out of the cafe and after a change of taxis and a street corner conference with [ ] on the way, took her to a low level BOB safehouse for debriefing. During the trip to his meeting with [ ] and on to the safehouse, BECRIPPLE-2 was able to determine positively that he was not under surveillance.

3. Upon arrival at the safehouse, Identity-2 said that shortly before Identity-1's last trip to West Berlin on 14 January 56, both she and he had been arrested at 0600

APPROVE [ ]

Distribution:

3 - EE (DIRECT) w/sep cov att

3 - COS " " "

CCT: aee/31 May 56

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hours in Schoenebeck. They had just returned to their barge from a visit to Identity-2's mother in Gommern. They were taken to an MfS office somewhere in Schoenebeck and were separated. Both were interrogated and accused of complicity with a Western IS. Although Identity-1 had been briefed specifically by BECRIPPLE-2 as to what [ ] had told the MfS about him, the MfS was able to break both Identity-1 and -2 by using the details given by [ ] to good advantage and by threatening them with fifteen years imprisonment if they did not come clean. Identity-2 could not describe the MfS officer who interrogated Identity-1, but from what Identity-1 had told her, the officer interrogating Identity-1 must have been present at the interrogation of [ ] to know so many details about the case. Identity-2 describes the officer who interrogated her as born ca 1920, average height, heavy build, blond hair, very bad front teeth, no cover name used; probably an officer of the Magdeburg MfS station.

4. After four hours of interrogation, during which time they were asked to provide exact descriptions of BECRIPPLE-2 (including whether German or American, type of clothing worn, exact age, etc.) both Identities 1 and 2 signed secrecy agreements and agreements to cooperate with the MfS. Identity-1 was told that he would have to go to West Berlin to contact BECRIPPLE-2 and to request an assignment from BECRIPPLE-2, and Identity-2 was told she would later have to go to West Berlin to take up contact with Alfred FISCHER. From the tone of the conversation, it became clear to Identity-2 that the MfS intended to initiate a kidnap attempt against FISCHER. As reported per reference dispatch, Identity-1 completed his MfS mission on 14 January without confessing his MfS involvement to BECRIPPLE-2. Identity-2 told BECRIPPLE-2 that Identity-1 had been afraid to confide in BECRIPPLE-2 for fear BECRIPPLE-2 would have him arrested and keep him from returning to the DDR. During Identity-1's trip to meet BECRIPPLE-2, the MfS clearly indicated to him that if he did not return from the meeting and if he did not play ball with them, his wife would suffer. His wife was thus used as a hostage during Identity-1's 14 January meeting with us, and now Identity-1 was being used as a hostage during Identity-2's meeting with us. Identity 2 said that she had discussed the matter at length with Identity-1 and Identity-1 had told her to tell BECRIPPLE-2 the true story after making contact with him in West Berlin, and to plead with BECRIPPLE-2 to let her return to the DDR for Identity-1's sake.

5. After Identity-1 returned from his 14 January meet with BECRIPPLE-2, the MfS continued their plans to have Identity-2 go to West Berlin and make contact with the FISCHER family. However, Identity-2 was sick with angina and the grippe during the month of February and was able to delay the trip. On 26 March the same MfS official who had interrogated Identity-2 after her arrest came to her on board her barge and told her she had procrastinated long enough. He told Identity-2 she would go to West Berlin on 28 March "or else." He told Identity-2 to take a specified train from Magdeburg and that she would be met at the Ostbahnhof by a Berlin MfS officer. Identity-2 went as scheduled and was picked up after alighting from the train by two MfS officers. One looks like he was born ca 1926, 180 meters tall, slender build, dark curly hair, according to his accent either Czech or Sudeten German, and the

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other appeared to have been born ca 1926, 170 meters tall, powerful build, dark hair and eyes, Saxon dialect, wore dark brown leather coat.

6. They took Identity-2 to an office in a building near the Ostbahnhof where they told her they expected her to go to West Berlin and take up contact with both FISCHER and "the Mister" (BECRIPPLE-2). They asked Identity-2 if she had a telephone number to call to get in touch with BECRIPPLE-2 or FISCHER and Identity-2 denied this as had she and Identity-1 throughout their interrogations. The officers then asked her how she made contact in the past with BECRIPPLE-2. She repeated her story that in the past she had visited FISCHER's daughter at the bakery where the daughter worked near Lehrter Bahnhof and the daughter always put her in touch with FISCHER. One of the officers said that she would use this method to take up contact with FISCHER and while saying this, he winked at his colleague. They then gave Identity-1 the telephone number 55 03 80, extension 215, and told her to call them when she returned to East Berlin. They told her that the main task she was to perform in West Berlin was to make contact with either FISCHER or BECRIPPLE-2 and to try to get an assignment for Identity-1 from BECRIPPLE-2.

7. Identity-2 parted from the MfS officers at the Ostbahnhof and went to the bakery at Lehrter-Bahnhof by S-Bahn, arriving there about 1200 hours. She does not know whether she was surveilled into West Berlin. She was told by the bakery owner that the FISCHER family had left for the West and was no longer in Berlin. After finding this out, she went back to the Lehrter-Bahnhof and from a public booth called the BEKING-13 number. She was told by BEKING-13 to call back at 1400 hours. Identity-2 then took an S-Bahn back into East Berlin and walked around Alexanderplatz in the hope of losing any possible surveillants. At 1400 hours she was back at Lehrter-Bahnhof and called the BEKING-13 number. In the meantime BECRIPPLE-2 had arranged a meeting with Identity-2 at 1500 hours at a Roseneck cafe and BEKING-13 relayed this message. Identity-2 went to the meeting place and successfully met BECRIPPLE-2. She does not think she was under surveillance at this time.

8. After getting the above story, BECRIPPLE-2 briefed Identity-2 to cover her use of the BEKING-13 telephone number by saying that she had finally been able to contact BECRIPPLE-2 by going to a cafe near U-Bahnhof Dahlem-Dorf and asking for BECRIPPLE-2 there by description. She was told to say that she knew BECRIPPLE-2 had used this cafe from time to time and that he probably was known there. She was also to say that after asking for BECRIPPLE-2 the cafe owner had made a telephone call to a "Mr. SCHULER" and BECRIPPLE-2 had come to the cafe thereafter. She was to say that BECRIPPLE-2 had not been suspicious of her and had been pleasant. He had not given her an assignment for Identity-1, however, since Identity-1's barge still was tied up in Schoenebeck. She was to say that BECRIPPLE-2 instructed her to have Identity-1 come to West Berlin immediately upon hearing that his barge was ready to sail. BECRIPPLE-2 in reality explained to Identity-2 that she was welcome to stay in the West but Identity-2 would not consider this inasmuch as she was afraid the MfS would jail Identity-1 if she did. After briefing Identity-2 on possible points which could trip her up with the MfS, Identity-2 left for East Berlin by U-Bahn from the Dahlem-Dorf Station at 1745 hours.

Field Comments: We see from the East Berlin telephone number given Identity-2 that we are dealing with the same MfS switchboard as that used in the [ ]

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common-law wife, and [ ] cases. We think there is a fair possibility that that first East Berlin MfS officer described above could be identical to the MfS officer involved with [ ] (para 2 of EGBA-27590) and that the second officer described above could be identical to the MfS officer "Horst" who sent [ ] common-law wife to us (para 14 of Attachment to EGBA-29874). We see again that the idea of kidnapping entered into use of this switchboard number as it did in the case of [ ]; common-law wife and in the [ ] complex. The exactness of the MfS interrogation of Identities 1 and 2 on BECRIPPLE-2's physical description makes us believe that there is a chance the MfS was planning an attempt against him once they established with certainty his German nationality.

9. Meeting With Identity-1 on 10 April: On 10 April Identity-1 reported in via BEKING-13 and after consultation, we had BECRIPPLE-2 schedule a meeting with Identity 1 at the Podbielski U-Bahn Station for 1500 hours. BEKING-13 told BECRIPPLE-2 that a strange male voice had first asked her if the number dialed was correct before the telephone was apparently handed to Identity-1. This fact coupled with the background of the case indicated the possibility that the MfS had finally decided to act against BECRIPPLE-2. As a precautionary measure, [ ] and [ ] counter-surveilled the Podbielski U-Bahn Station on foot and [ ] observed the meeting site from an indigenous vehicle parked across the street. About 1450 hours Identity 1 was seen standing in front of the Station. At exactly 1500 hours, BECRIPPLE-2 approached the Station and, as previously arranged, walked back into the Station after greeting Identity-1. Identity-1 and BECRIPPLE-2 took the next U-Bahn one Station away from the Podbielski Station where they took a taxi to a selected Zehlendorf Gasthaus. During this trip BECRIPPLE-2 could detect no surveillance. At the meeting site proper, no Opposition surveillance was definitely established by [ ]

10. Identity-1 immediately told BECRIPPLE-2 that he had wanted to tell BECRIPPLE 2 about his doubling by the MfS during his 14 January meeting, but that he had been afraid that BECRIPPLE-2 might keep him in the West, thus putting his wife in danger. He verified the story told by his wife as reported above and added that the MfS had been very exact about BECRIPPLE-2's physical description. Identity-1 said he had tried to throw the MfS off the track by giving a low estimate of BECRIPPLE-2's age. Like Identity-2, he had been asked in detail when, where, and how he met with BECRIPPLE-2; he also said he had not given away the BEKING-13 number. Identity-1 said he had been given the East Berlin MfS telephone number 55 03 80, as had his wife, but that he had been given no extension number. He was told to call, giving only his MfS cover name "Gerhard" and he would then be connected further. Identity-1 said that his wife had since been assigned the cover name "Elfriede" and that they both had been given an MfS telephone number in Magdeburg, 33801. After he returned from his 14 January meeting with BECRIPPLE-2, he said he told the MfS that he thought BECRIPPLE 2 mistrusted him. Identity-1 says the MfS officers were interested mainly in what sort of mission BECRIPPLE-2 had given him, and he told the MfS officials that he had not

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received any mission since his barge was still undergoing repairs in Schoenebeck. He told the MfS, however, that BECRIPPLE-2 had given him DMW 75.00 and had told him to return to West Berlin when his barge was ready to depart from Schoenebeck. (Comment: Identity-1 had in reality been given DMW 100.00 by BECRIPPLE-2 but says the MfS officers did not bother to search him; they let him keep the money.) After interrogation in West Berlin, Identity-1 returned to his barge and his wife was sent to West Berlin on 28 March, as reported above.

11. After his wife returned from her 28 March meeting with BECRIPPLE-2, Identity 1 was visited in Magdeburg on 7 April and told to take a specified train to West Berlin on 10 April. He arrived at the Ostbahnhof at 1030 hours and was met by the tall curly haired MfS officer who had met with his wife and who is described in para 5 above. He was taken to an office near the Ostbahnhof where he was briefed to go to West Berlin and ask BECRIPPLE-2 for a mission. He was asked how he planned to get in touch with BECRIPPLE-2 and he answered that he would go to the same cafe to which his wife had gone and ask for BECRIPPLE-2. He left the MfS officer about 1130 hours and walked across the sector border into West Berlin, making sure that no one was following him. He says he stopped at a West Berlin newspaper stand and asked the salesman to call the BEKING-13 number for him. The salesman dialed the number, made sure it was the right one, and then handed the telephone to Identity-1. This checks with BEKING-13's account.

12. After BECRIPPLE-2 got this information from Identity-1 he met with [ ] near the Gasthaus selected for the meeting. After discussing the case, it appeared useless to attempt to double Identity-1 back against the MfS. We were not able to tell whether Identity-1 was telling us the complete truth, but BECRIPPLE-2 was of the opinion he was. We thought that eventually, if not already, the nervousness of Identity-1's wife would compromise our knowledge of the doubling, and Identity-1 himself told BECRIPPLE-2 he was very nervous about the entire arrangement. [ ] thus told BECRIPPLE-2 to officially terminate Identity-1 in a manner which he would report to the MfS and which would give the MfS reason to believe the termination was bona fide. BECRIPPLE-2 would tell Identity-1, however, that we would be waiting for him and Identity-2 to escape to West Berlin and would help them in their refugee processing if they decided to come.

13. In line with these instructions, BECRIPPLE-2 returned to the Gasthaus and briefed Identity-1 that he should report the following described termination procedure to the MfS on his return to East Berlin:

Identity-1 was to say that BECRIPPLE-2 seemed very suspicious of him during the meeting and at the end of the meeting told him never to report back to West Berlin. BECRIPPLE-2 had told him that inasmuch as he had not traveled or been able to accomplish any missions during the past six months, and since the [ ] affair had already placed him in danger, BECRIPPLE-2's organization had decided to terminate him. BECRIPPLE-2 then gave Identity-1 DMW 100.00 and had Identity-1 write out a quit claim relieving BECRIPPLE-2's organization of any further financial responsibility for his

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cooperation. BECRIPPLE-2 had finally told him that he would not be met even if he tried to recontact BECRIPPLE-2 in the future.

14. In addition to the above "give away" briefing, Identity-1 was told that in the event he decided to come to West Berlin he would be met and assisted in refugee processing. He was told, however, that we would meet with him only when he and his wife arrived together in West Berlin as refugees. Identity-1 told BECRIPPLE-2 that as soon as the opportunity presented itself, he planned to bring his wife to the West. Identity-1 voiced doubts that the MfS would believe he had been terminated, but BECRIPPLE-2 reassured Identity-1 he need only report the above give away briefing since, in fact, we were terminating him. After being briefed on how he allegedly came in contact with BECRIPPLE-2 for the above meeting, Identity-1 left for East Berlin from the Dahlem-Dorf U-Bahn Station at 1800 hours.

Field Comment: We were not able to decide whether Identity-2 had been able to carry out BECRIPPLE-2's cover story after her return to East Berlin from her 28 March meeting. Identity-2 was extremely nervous with BECRIPPLE-2 and we think she would be equally nervous with MfS officers, although we have to give BECRIPPLE-2 credit for looking like a very tough Kripo official. Our initial impression is that both Identities 1 and 2 have told us the truth since the MfS would not have gained too much by instructing Identities 1 and 2 to "give away" the fact of their MfS recruitment. However, the MfS could be interested in seeing whether we would run Identity-1 as a double agent, or they could be interested in keeping contact with BECRIPPLE-2 to set him up as a kidnap candidate. To cover these possibilities, we consider Identities 1 and 2 terminated and intend to meet them only when they both talk with BEKING-13 on the telephone verifying their presence in West Berlin, probably as refugees. We are submitting the required termination material on Identity-1 in separate dispatch.

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