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ASSESSMENT OF AGENT PERSONNEL

Fwded under EGBA-2743,
2 Feb. 53, filed
Arno SCHOLZ

True Name: Karl Heinz MARBACH Age: 34 (DOB 5 July 1917) Address: 98 Wilkistrasse
Berlin/Zehlendorf

Project:

LCCASSOCK - Monthly production of a falsified East German Magazine.

Position in Project: Principal Agent Salary: DM 350 per month

Clearance Status:

Home Office clearance per WASHG 02575

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODSEXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

Relationship with Agency:

In 1948 Karl Heinz Marbach was employed for a period of three months as Chief of the Press Section, DTLINEN, but left that organization because of disagreement with its personnel policies. At this time, he did not have any contact with the DTLINEN case officer and was unaware of US interest in the organization. Marbach was first contacted by [] during November 1950 through PBPARRY. Marbach's relations with PBPARRY were that of an unwitting free-lance journalist. Marbach had at his disposal a loosely-knit group of former colleagues who seemed well-suited for producing falsified editions of East Zone newspapers and magazines. Marbach was first utilized in the one-time production of a falsified newspaper commemorating Stalin's birthday during December 1950. Prior to this time, Marbach had produced several falsified editions of newspapers for the Ministry for All-German Affairs, the arrangements for which, he accomplished himself. A clearance for similar operations was granted for Marbach as of 26 July 1951. During 1951, Marbach and his staff produced one falsified edition of an East Zone newspaper per month for the Ministry of All-German Affairs. Since the latter organization was somewhat careless in maintaining regular payments to the group, Marbach extended feelers to gain other financial support for his operations. During the latter part of 1951, he approached HICOG for such support. Arrangements were made between HICOG and COM that although HICOG would, in fact, make a grant through KUBARK supporting the operation during 1952, it would tell Marbach that it was unable to do so. Project LCCASSOCK was approved as of 1 April 1952 for a period of nine months with a HICOG grant of DM 10,000 per month. From April 1952 until December 1952, Marbach and his staff produced one falsified Soviet Zone magazine per month under CADRAIN operational control. Project LCCASSOCK was extended provisionally for a period of three months effective 1 January 1953 utilizing ZRCANDY funds pending Home Office study and approval of the project. More details concerning Marbach's staff and his distribution methods were requested to aid in this study and such are being forwarded at the present time. KUBARK case officers who have been in contact with Marbach in the past are [] and [] The present case officer is []

Background:

Marbach received his grade school education in Kolberg from 1924 until 1928. He then attended the Domgymnasium in Kolberg from 1928 until 1936. In April 1937, he entered the German Navy and rose rapidly through the ranks. During World War II, he was in command of his own submarine and saw considerable action off the

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Norwegian, North African and French coasts. Marbach was acquainted with Doenitz and has the highest respect for this man as a leader. Upon orders of Doenitz's staff, Marbach was designated as one of three submarine commanders to test the feasibility of submarine-mounted AA batteries as a "first line of defense" against allied bombers attacking the continent from English bases. After exhaustive tests, Marbach disapproved the idea and made his report personally to Doenitz. Marbach surrendered his submarine to a British Commander in Oslo following the capitulation and then spent two and a half years as a prisoner of war in French custody. During this period of incarceration, he began an intensive study of world events and made some major personal readjustments as far as his thinking was concerned. He resolved to enter the field of journalism and directed his studies towards this goal. He edited a small newsheet for the benefit of his fellow PW's and thus was somewhat prepared for a civilian occupation following his release. In 1948, he became a free-lance journalist for a number of newspapers including Der Abend, Ruhr-Nachrichten, Luebecker-Nachrichten and the Nordwest Zeitung. For a short while in 1949, he was a member of the Deutsche Union. From 1949 to 1950, he attended classes in journalism and history at the Free University of Berlin. Other than his war-time travels with the German Navy, Marbach has not traveled abroad.

Personality and Character:

A. Motivation:

During the period in which he was a prisoner of war, Marbach studied seriously the cause and effect of the international actions of Germany and other world powers in history and, as a result, became thoroughly convinced of need for free nations to work together to maintain the rights of man. It was with this thought in mind that he became one of the charter members of the Deutsche Union, an "ueberparteiliche" (non-partisan) political organization. At the time of the foundation of the DU, it was the intention of its founders that it should be the "pressure" organization to represent the democratic interests of German youth. Later when the organization was taken over by professional politicians, Marbach and a number of his associates resigned, since the DU no longer represented their interests. Marbach is an intense internationalist with overtones of German patriotism. He feels that a peaceful and free future can only be guaranteed Germany (and any other country, as well) if she participates freely and without reservation in the community of free nations. As such, the Soviet Union represents a threat to the freedom he envisages for Germany and therefore, he is intensely opposed to any territorial expansion of the Soviet sphere or the psychological expansion of Communism. Marbach feels that each young man should take an active part in attaining this goal of freedom to the best of his ability, for lassitude invites defeat. He also has one other specific reason for being opposed to the Russians. His wife, who also is a journalist, was raped by the Russians immediately following World War II.

B. Personal Integrity:

Marbach absorbed a tremendous feeling of personal integrity from his training as an officer in the German Navy. He will state clearly if he can or cannot perform a certain task and, if his answer is in the affirmative, will live up to his promise. It can be said that personal integrity

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is one of his basic principles and his greatest criticism of another person or organization is that it has not been honest or honorable. All relations with Marbach to date have indicated that he has practiced this code to the letter in every phase of his work within CADRAIN operational control.

C. Character:

Marbach is a person who likes matters well organized. Each of his operations are planned in detail by him personally or, in the case of distribution matters which are arranged by other groups, he requires that he be given a detailed briefing of the contemplated distribution by the group leader. He makes every effort to assemble an "operational analysis" following each operation in order that he can clearly see the successes and failures in black and white and thus be better informed for future operations. He is quite security conscious and endeavors to learn as much about this subject as possible. Marbach's interests lie primarily with the work which he is doing for ICCASSOCK. In addition, however, he has an almost academic interest in naval matters. He attempts to purchase or at least read every book or magazine concerning this subject which is available in Germany. His home life is quiet and there does not appear to be anything relative to his social life which might reflect adversely upon his character.

Alias: None

Association with Other Projects and/or Agents:

Marbach has been a valuable asset to the agency because of the great number of contacts which he maintains with specialists in all fields of public life. These are the persons upon whom he calls to gain the expert editorial assistance necessary to prepare specific, convincingly accurate, falsifications of East Zone official magazines. As would be expected, Marbach or his staff have among their advisors a number of contacts with other projects and agents sponsored by CADRAIN. One of his staff, Werner Simmermacher, in fact is also an employee of TPEMBER. Among his other contacts, either his own or through his staff, are: Werner Dassui (DTLINEN), Nelson G. Henard (TPEMBER), Charles E. Newham (DTLINEN), and Charles H. Vereker (HTGEESE). Marbach has only casual social contact with Vereker having been introduced to him by Frau Marbach who is the East German Affairs editor for HTGEESE. Marbach is unaware of U.S. interest in any of these projects with the exception of the rumors he has heard concerning DTLINEN and TPEMBER. Marbach is acquainted with [] (WSSHEAVE) but their contacts have been infrequent. No other connections are specifically known, however, the possibility does exist that they may exist with agents directed by other agency offices.

Last Correspondence: EGB-A-2404

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