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AIR

MGB-A-9482

Chief, Foreign Division "A"

16 July 1951

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Identification of Subject of MGB-A-9481 - Personal Data

1. Subject is Elfina MELLENTHIN, born 6 October 1913 at Koeslin, Pomerania. Her father, a former officer, resides on the Island of Ruegen. Her only brother was abducted by the Soviets and taken to the USSR. After attending elementary school in Koeslin and a private school in Berlin-Moabit, subject in 1928 was apprenticed to the dressmaker's firm Hans L. Rosenthal and Co., Berlin, Seuthestr. At the same time she attended a weaving school at Warschauerbruecke in Berlin. Having been trained as a dancer and actress in the Anna Ostereich-Bauerschule, Berlin, subject from January 1934 until December 1939 toured Italy, using the Hotel Majestic in Torino as a temporary residence. Thereafter she toured Switzerland, Holland and Belgium. During the war she served for two years as a secretary in the German Air Ministry. After taking singing lessons from M. Feldmann Olden in Berlin-Zehlendorf, she resumed her stage career in 1946. Subject was divorced from Walter E. R. MELLENTHIN in 1950. Since that time she has lived with a war invalid who, as a result of his injuries, is unemployed and completely depends upon subject for support.

2. While subject cannot be acclaimed a beauty in the traditional sense, she displays a great deal of natural feminine charm and moves with complete social ease in the presence of men. Her quick and natural grasp of a given situation as well as the speed and energy with which she reacts, have invested her personality make-up with certain unmistakably masculine traits. She is conscious of this and once wistfully remarked that she should have been born a man. Having performed as a vaudvillisa on the high bar, there can be little doubt about her personal prowess. As a concert singer she is believed to be more than passable.

3. Subject strikes observers as a basically decent and honest person, whose anti-Communist sentiments appear unfeigned.

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