

WOL-A-1603

SECRET

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

29 March 1950

Chief, Pullach Operations Base

ODWUM - Operational

Kurt Josef MERCK

CC

1. Recently CIC Augsburg contacted *(C. [unclear])* on the subject of Kurt Josef MERCK.
2. According to CIC Augsburg, MERCK was formerly employed by them, but was dropped at an unspecified date, due ostensibly to the fact that MERCK's activities were of positive intelligence interest only and could not be utilized by CIC.
3. At present, MERCK is supposed to be unemployed. He recently made contact with CIC Augsburg claiming to have between 400 and 600 micro-filmed documents dealing with everything from economic matters to the latest military developments in the East. CIC Augsburg allegedly had made some contact with MAD and had been instructed to pass the information about MERCK to GDE on the chance that we would be interested in contacting MERCK to obtain the microfilms and/or to employ him.
4. Since MERCK was apparently not intending to remain long in Munich, we thought it worth giving the name and address (9 Lautererstr.) to ODWUM in order that some effort could be made to see what MERCK had to offer on his microfilm. It happened that ODWUM knew MERCK as an old Abwehr member; knew also of his work for CIC Augsburg, and had in fact, about a year ago, dickered with MERCK with the idea of employing him. However, apparently MERCK had taken the initiative and was not actually employed, as, for an unknown reason, he seems to be persona non grata to ODWUM. Actually, we do know that MERCK was during the war at one time, the superior of LEIDL, which may alone be sufficient reason for MERCK's being unacceptable.
5. We have not yet heard the results of ODWUM's meeting with MERCK.

*Karl note: 1. Re para 2 - we have no record of C.I.C. checking with us*

*2. See serials 16644-1843, ~~1844~~ [unclear]  
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