

AIR

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 2528
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

MBB-A-10322

10 October 1951

Chief, Foreign Division "M"

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Operational

Payment to Hildegard WINDPFENNIG

Ref : KARLF-2538 - not rec'd Werk.

1. Through the good offices of [] I was introduced to Hildegard WINDPFENNIG in July 1951 as a representative of the U.S. Claims Commission. Present also at the first and subsequent three meetings was Richard SCHULZ (17 Bismarckstr., Berlin-Friedenau), a close friend of Frau WINDPFENNIG and (formerly) of CAISSON-19.

2. Frau WINDPFENNIG is an attractive, intelligent and reasonable woman who has left no stone in the SovZone unturned to locate her husband. She was aware of the fact that her husband undertook a "delicate" mission to Dresden in 1950 at the behest of CAISSON-19 but she did not know that the Americans were behind it until she met me. In fact, Frau WINDPFENNIG had already built up a strong mental case against CAISSON-19 as the cause of all her woes. CAISSON-19 had on several occasions unwisely promised her the early return of her husband. That failing, she was easy prey to her husband's uncle, Otto WINDPFENNIG (2 Treibjagdweg, Berlin-Zehlendorf) who came upon the scene belatedly to say "something must be done". Unfortunately, "something" was turning to the Kampfgruppe gegen Unmenschlichkeit and - BOB does not yet know whether the idea originated in the KGU - filing the law suit against CAISSON-19. According to Frau WINDPFENNIG, this idea was not hers; in fact she knew nothing about the law suit and its quashing until informed of same by []. Nevertheless, she expressed herself pleased that her husband's uncle had caused CAISSON-19 some measure of discomfort. [] was rather shocked at the statements made by Frau WINDPFENNIG and Herr SCHULZ in regard to the shabby treatment meted out to her by CAISSON-19. In spite of many grandiose promises from CAISSON-19, Frau WINDPFENNIG had received only 200 DMW in one payment from CAISSON-19. Although BOB has been unable to corroborate CAISSON-19's allegation that the uncle, Otto WINDPFENNIG, may be a Communist and may have instigated the law suit in Frau WINDPFENNIG's name - to embarrass the Americans, it is certain that she had been desperate as a result of the wall of silence surrounding her husband's disappearance. He was brought to see her twice during the first week after his ill-fated trip to Dresden and told her on both occasions that he had a "job" to complete and would return afterwards. On these two visits WINDPFENNIG's companion was a personable gentleman in whom Frau WINDPFENNIG detected a trace of a Russian accent. Frau WINDPFENNIG has seen neither her husband nor his companion since the two short visits to her a few days after [] arrival in West Berlin

3. Frau WINDPFENNIG was paid 5000 DMW for which she reluctantly signed a quit claim (attached). Wisely, she believes she should remain living in East Berlin in

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the hope that her staying there will some day enable her husband to return home. She has a minor clerking job with the Ort Magistrat Berlin, from which she supports her two children. That she still has her municipal job and has recently had returned to her a piece of property formerly occupied by the Russians probably indicates that she is not being persecuted as a result of her husband's arrest. Frau WINDPFENNIG bought two postal savings books which bear 2-3/4% interest. She has placed these savings certificates - registered in the name of Richard SCHULZ - in a safe deposit box. This box, for which Frau WINDPFENNIG has the keys, is listed in her name under a provision whereby East Berliners have safe deposit boxes in West Berlin without running the risk of having their names divulged. She is quite satisfied with the arrangement and apparently harbors no ill will against the Americans - only against CAISSON-19.

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